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## the johns hopkins Letter

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COURTESY OF KATIE BROOKS Stover addresses the FCA about his long career in professional football

## Event emphasizes worldwide need for shoes

Staff Writer

"One Day Without Shoes," held this past Tuesday, April 10 in Levering Courtyard raised awareness about the health risks of extreme

ous barefooted activities throughout the afternoon. The event is part of an annual nationwide effort by TOMS shoes, a shoe company that donates a new pair of shoes to an underprivileged child for every

pair of shoes it sells.
"I wanted to make people understand what it feels like to live without shoes, as many people, especially children, around the world are forced to do," senior Kim Stein, one of the organiz-

I've worn no shoes on April 10, but this year my friend, [senior] Chelsea DeVita, decided to join me and we wanted to turn it into a public event.'

SEE SHOES, PAGE A4

#### Ravens kicker discusses commitment to religion

By ASHLEY EMERY News & Features Editor

Fellowship Christian Athletes (FCA) hosted former kicker for the Ravens, Matt Stover, this past Monday to discuss his athletic career and the importance of religion in his life and profession. Stover spoke at FCA's weekly Bible Study Meeting at 8 p.m. in Charles Commons Sa-

Stover said that in his career, he aims to "glorify [God] with [his] talents."

"I'm not going to tell you I'm perfect," Stover said. "To me, when you have purpose and hardship comes. . .when you know it's for Him and you have work to do. . .failure you don't fear. . .you embrace it.'

Stover explained that, after each kick, he pointed up to the sky to God because of a prayer that was taught to him. With each kick, he wants to "get it off me and put it on Him." Stover says that he is carrying out "God's plan" for him.

"I always wanted to have the ball in my hand, Stover said. "What defined me since 4th grade? I wanted to be an NFL athlete."

Stover discussed the negative aspects of being a professional athlete as well, asserting that it is an unstable path. Despite his 20-year career, he said that a career in the NFL is not "eternal" and is not life-long.

"When our career is over, we go through a death, the same symp-toms of a death," Stover

However, stressed that the primary debacle that commonly affects professional athletes is divorce, and the subsequent issues resulting from paying alimony and child support. Often, such expenditures greatly detract from the financial success of professional athletes.

The two things in Stover's life that he said are eternal are the word of God and people. He strives to value his family and is dedicated to not getting divorced. He married his high school sweetheart, and they have three children.

"I don't want to get SEE FCA, PAGE A4

#### Barnstormers presents The Drowsy Chaperone



GEORGINA EDIONSERI/PHOTOGRAPHY STAFF

Junior Peabody student Justine Icy Moral plays Janet van de Graaff, who gets married in the JHU Barnstormers' spring musical.

#### JHU life sciences increase expenditures

By KATIE QUINN Layout Editor

The National Science Foundation (NSF) reported that Hopkins had the largest research and development expenditures in all academic science and engineering fields for the fiscal year 2010. The NSF's National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics: the Higher Education Research and Development (HERD) Survey conducted the report.

Hopkins spent the most in research with financial assistance from an investment from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009.

The University had a 6.9 percent increase in spending on research and development from fiscal year 2009 to 2010, reaching \$61.2 billion. Life

increase in spending out of the 10 broad fields that were surveyed in data collection, representing \$34.9 billion of the \$61.2 billion

Despite the upsurge in the expenditures for engineering and computer science, social sciences saw a reduction in spending by more than four percent, dropping to \$2 billion.

#### HUBS holds talk on worldwide health care

is to promote

critical thinking.

— Dennis

By SUZ AMEDI Staff Writer

The Hopkins Undergraduate Bioethics Symposium (HUBS) held a

Research Ethics Talk yesevening Charles Commons Ballroom to discuss the role of health

in

develop-

ing countries. Attendees were divided into small groups of about five people, and each group was assigned to discuss and debate a particular set of issues pertaining to research worldwide.

"The purpose of this event and any other events that we host is to

promote critical thinking," junior Dennis Orkoulas-Razis said. "Often, we present questions that really have no wrong or right answer, and chal-

lenge ple to form opinions The purpose of this and defend event and any other them with evidence events that we host and

son. About 25 students in total attended the event Orkoulas-Razis, Junior and debated different questions

including: is health care a universal right? Who is responsible for providing health care? Whose standard of care should be implemented when conducting research in developing countries? And what sort of compensation should be offered

for people in developing SEE RESEARCH, PAGE A5

#### Students place third at national business competition

By NASH JENKINS Senior Staff Writer

undergraduates from the Hopkins chapter of the American Marketing Association (AMA) placed third at the SABRE Business Simulation Competition at the AMA's 34th annual Collegiate Conference in New Orleans last month. The Hopkins team - founded in 2008 by the Center for Leadership Education's Entrepreneurship & Management minor

program - made its first title of Vice-Presappearance in the competition and placed ahead consistent contenders.

The team, comprised of undergraduates Erica Suter, Xiao Le, David Carasiti, Matt Mulholland, Amanda Yaccarino and Katie Brooks and led by Leslie Kendrick, a Senior Lecturer in the Center of Education, draws heavily from the executive board of the Hopkins chapter of the AMA: Suter sits as its President, while Le and Carasiti share the

ident of Programming. This is the first year that the chapter has fielded a team for a marketing simulation contest, competitions whose attendance levels have corresponded with the increasing popular-ity of marketing as an academic SEE SABRE, PAGE A5



COURTESY OF LESLIE KENDRICK The AMA team developed marketing skills.

NEWS & FEATURES A7 • OPINIONS A17 • YOUR WEEKEND B2 • ARTS B3 • CARTOONS B6 • SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY B7 • SPORTS B12



Members of JHUNICEF attend their event, Water on the Beach, which raised nearly \$200.

#### .IHUNICEF hosts Water on the Beach

By JUSTIN LI and KATHERINE SIMEON

The Hopkins chapter of UNICEF (JHUNICEF) fundraising event for the UNICEF Tap Project last Friday, Apr 6, on the Beach. Entitled "Water on the Beach," the event aimed to raise money to provide clean, safe drinking water to children in impoverished

"[The] goal is to get clean, safe drinking water to people around the world," sophomore Evan Rule, fundraising co-chair of JHUNICEF, said.

The event was originally scheduled for Friday, Mar. 30, but the rainy weather discouraged attendance. Save for the few members of JHUNICEF, no other people were on the beach. In addition, Rule explained how the cold weather forced the group to cancel the water balloon toss.

"We're still selling water balloons," Rule said. "[People] can throw them at us if they pay us enough money.'

Consequently, JHUNI-CEF took down the event at 3 p.m. on Mar. 30. The event was set up again the following week, garnering more success.

"The event was postponed from Friday March 30th to Friday April 6th due to rain, which confused some people. Nevertheless, we had a good turn-out, with a lot of people buying lemonade or water balloons. I'd say about a 100 [were in attendance]," sophomore Maha Haqqani, President of JHUNICEF, wrote in an email to The News-Letter.

The event featured a

lemonade stand, a water balloon toss and a waterthemed scavenger hunt. The scavenger hunt included challenges such as finding a bendy straw, identifying the cheapest bottle of water in Charles Street Market and finding a Water-Type Pokemon card. The winning team was given UNICEF

Upon learning about the event, some students thought the event's activities contradicted its cause. Students believed that the activities seemed to waste water to support a cause that strives to provide clean water to impoverished populations.

"There was a handful of students expressing their views on our facebook event page, and while they are entitled to their own opinions, [JHU-NICEF] felt that was not the right platform to raise their concerns," Haqqani

"Moreover, we stand by our belief that the event was not contradictory to the cause. . . Along with the lemonade stand and Water Trivia table, we thought the event would attract people as well as raise awareness about the water crisis in some parts of the world. sary wastage of water. The interesting thing is that UNICEF itself approved of the event when I sent the Volunteer Office our entire event outline and how we were planning to raise money, so it was strange that others should so vehemently oppose it without realizing that our primary concern was to raise money that could actually be put to use helping those most in need of it. In the future, however, we'll try to keep in mind the views of everyone.

Despite the issues with the weather, JHUNICEF was able to earn money for its cause. In total, they raised nearly \$200.

'Considering weather, it's been pretty good," Rule said. "People have been pretty generous with donations

Overall, JHUNICEF sees its event as a success and a significant step forward. As a provisional group, they currently receive no funding from Hopkins. The entire event cost the organization \$35.

The team and I were pleased with the event. We put a lot of effort into it and while it could have been warmer outside and we could have attracted a larger crowd, we're very happy considering this was our first major event as a campus club," Haqqani wrote

JHUNICEF is already thinking of ways to improve this event for next year. Changes include moving the event to mid-April in order to take advantage of better weather.

We most certainly plan on having events like this in the future!" Haqqani wrote. "In fact, the JHU-NICEF committee thinks "Water on the Beach" could become an annual thing."

The event's cause, the UNICEF Tap Project was created in 2007. Since then, it has raised nearly \$3 million to provide clean, safe drinking water to children across the globe.

For UNICEF's campaign, the funds will be targeted at Togo, Viet-Mauritania Cameroon, according to the UNICEF website.

## O'Conner discusses Transablism

By BEN KUPFERBERG

The Hopkins Undergraduate Bioethics Society HUBS) hosted Professor Dan O'Connor this past Monday to speak about the history of transablism the idea that a person psychologically believes he will be better off if he or she were disabled. He presented his opinion on the subject and the potential future of the movement.

"We have hosted similar events in the past. The goal with our events is to promote critical thinking in an environment that develops awareness for the growing field of bioethics. We have held discussions, academic panels, and symposiums; however, the challenge for this event was deciding how to present the topic," Dento present the topic," nis Orkoulas-Razis, HUBS board member, said.

The event began with a 30-minute lecture by the professor, in which he provided some background on transablism and showed why modern society views it as such a bizarre feeling.

"Transablism goes against everything have been doing in biomedical science for the last 200 years. The whole idea of medicine is to make people better off, and transablism, the need to make you worse off, goes against all of that. However, we need to understand the context behind transablism, and the physiological pain these people are going through," O'Connor said to his audience.

O'Connor also showed how transsexuality has provided a model for transablism, and that people who believe they need to be impaired use transsexuality to justify their thoughts. In terms of transsexuality, people have an idea of themselves that is completely incongruent to what society sees of their body. The same idea is true of people who believe they need to amputate a leg or become blind.

He shared a short anecdote about John Money, a famous physician at Hopkins who pioneered treatments in transsexuality. When the idea of transablism first arose, people believed the only person that would remove a perfectly healthy limb would be a doctor who deals with transsexuality.

Money believed these two men desired to lose a limb because of their attraction to apotemnophilia, an amputation fetish. However, their bodies were perfectly healthy. Money believed they did not actually want to lose a leg but were just stimulated by the idea.

**Transexuality** because we believe in gender, but society cannot get their heads around the fact that someone could truly believe that they would be better off with a certain physical disability. treatment of transablism in popular culture, such as in TV shows, also paints transablism as bizarre, which makes it even harder for these people to tell their stories," O'Connor

Following a brief discussion on the effects that modern culture has on the idea of transablism, O'Connor fielded a few questions. He spoke about what he believed would be the future of the movement of transablism.

"There is very little

research money in this movement and therefore Johns Hopkins most likely won't get involved in transablism," O'Connor told The News-Letter, transablism will be included in the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual (DSM), which will legitimate transablism as a true condition, but will also limit the flexibility in which people can discuss the idea, and possible solutions to transablism."

"This was a significant event because we want to engage the student body to develop critical thinking and inform the student body and other aspects of the Johns Hopkins community about issues prevalent in bioethics that affect our society," Orkoulas-Razis said.

There were about 30 people in attendance for this event, not including the members of the Bioethics Society. It was a diverse turnout with students who were interested in pursuing a career in bioethics, students who were taking a moral philosophy class and others who were just interested in the topic of

"I thought the event was really interesting and the speaker presented it really well. He raised some thought-provoking questions that challenged my pre-conceived views against transablism. I left the event very confused over which side I agreed with," senior Jordan Glassberg said.

O'Connor, who received his PhD from Hopkins, teaches two classes at Homewood and is a part of the Berman Institute of Bioethics. He has been part of Hopkins faculty since

#### Annual JohnCon attracts gamers

Gamers and fantasy fans enjoy convention in Levering

By MARY KATHERINE ATKINS Copy Editor

Science fiction and fantasy fanatics gathered at Levering Hall this past weekend for JohnCon, an annual science fiction and fantasy convention at Hopkins. JohnCon included 48 hours of continuous video gaming, tabletop gaming and science fiction and fantasy screenings.

The interior of Levering Hall was transformed into a fantasy world for the weekend. The Glass Pavilion hosted video games; the Sherwood Room featured anime shows; the Arellano Theater provided movie screenings; and the Great Hall accommodated board games.

The Hopkins Science Fiction and Fantasy Association (HopSFA) teamed up with the Johns Hopkins Animation Club (JHAC) and Hopkins Pen and Paper Gaming (HPPG) to sponsor John-Con. Each group offered its expertise and resources to provide events for the "Con."

"This convention is for any and all things fun and nerdy, ranging from anime to role playing to laser tag," Jeffrey Bismayer, a HopSFA board member and one of JohnCon's key organizers, wrote in an email to The News-Letter.

JohnCon attracted a diverse audience, including current Hopkins students and Hopkins alumni, as well as members of the local Baltimore community. Some JohnCon participants hailed from outside of Maryland — one loyal JohnCon attendee trekked to Baltimore from Virginia in order to attend the Con.

Some of the weekend highlights included the Lord of the Rings Trilogy marathon on Saturday night, student run panels on topics such as "Hacking in the Movies versus Hacking in the Real World" and "Classic Modeling," and several pick up games of

The panel on "Clas-Modeling" focused on building and painting role-playing figurines, as well as different techniques used to make them more Hobbytown USA, based in Timonium, MD, sponsored this panel and provided gift cards for members of the audience.

Walt's Cards and Games is another long standing vendor and attendee of JohnCon. This year, they sent a representative down to set up shop in the Great Hall.

Bismayer cited this year's inauguration of laser tag as one of the most successful events of the weekend. JohnCon hosted laser tag battles of six versus six on the quad. Participants played for several hours each night. HopSFA hopes to purchase more laser guns in the future to enable games on a larger scale at JohnCon, as well as to incorporate laser tag games at HopSFA meetings throughout the year.

The Con produces a more intimate setting than some of the larger science fiction and fantasy conventions, which allows for larger games against more

players.
"The event provides a fun weekend-long break from school and the like, so that people can come out and play board games, role playing games and

video games; watch anime, sci-fi and fantasy films; buy things from local hobby shop vendors; and enjoy the occasional pack of Japanese treats, such as Pocky," Bismayer wrote.

HopSFA, JHAC HPPG spent the entire year planning this year's JohnCon. Levering Hall was reserved in early September. This year, the only weekend available happened to fall over Easter and Passover, which attendance though many Hopkins students went home for the weekend, around 60 people attended JohnCon this year - more than double the HopSFA club member count.

"I was surprised at how active it was," Bismayer said, "Overall, I found the event very successful. It was quieter this year than last year, both in attendance and overall events, but there were plenty of options available to attendees to have fun and experience something new."

In order to attract a wider following, this was the first year that the organizers of JohnCon waived the entrance fee.

As Bismayer graduates from Hopkins, he looks forward to handing his key role as head organizer to his successor.

"I intend to pass on my experience to my predecessor, and he will have, hopefully, what he needs to do to make this Con as good as it was last year and make it better," Bismayer

HopSFA will begin the early stages of planning for JohnCon '13 in the upcoming months.



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#### NEWS & FEATURES

## Hopkins advertising class learns concepts outside the classroom

By KATHERINE SIMEON

Class registration is a serious process. Searching through next semester's course offerings, students wonder about what type of work is required in each class, which classes they need to graduate on time and which to place in the ISIS cart first.

Readings, papers and labs are all commonplace in the classroom scene. However, in the "Advertising and Promotions" course, students directly apply what they are learning outside of the class-

Offered through the Center for Leadership Education, the 40-person class is extremely diverse, comprised of students ranging from freshmen to seniors, with majors ranging from engineering to economics. Offered every spring, the class is connected to a professional client who gives them a set of goals for an advertising campaign.

semester-long project, the class is modelled after an advertising team, with different departments, managers and staff members.

"It's entirely an experimental learning type of situation. So it's really interesting, it's very real world experience. The class also has readings and things to make it more of an academic class. But the project is the biggest thing that we do for the class, senior Ava Scheininger, an Economics major in the class and the advertising team's co-coordinator,

This semester, the class's client is zaahah.com, a social search engine. Users register with the search engine, which functions like Google or Bing. When users enter something into the search engine, they will be able to see other users who searched for the same item and chat with them to improve their search.

The class's objective is to spread awareness of the search site using the advertising skills learned in class. Their ultimate goal is to obtain 75,000 site registrations and more than 50 percent awareness, or how many people know about zaahah.com on campus.

'We conducted precampaign research and at the end of the campaign, we will also conduct post campaign research, Scheininger said. "Originally when we had conducted our pre-campaign research no one said they had ever heard of zaahah. When we conduct our post-campaign research, we hope that people will say that they heard of zaahah and they know what it is through our advertising and all our events.

In order to achieve this goal, the class has been working hard producing media and hosting events to spread the word about zaahah.com.

"We've come up with an entire integrated marketing campaign, which pretty much means that we haven't focused on simply one aspect of advertising, we've done it all and we've been trying to bring it all together," Scheininger

The class has made fliers to post around campus and stickers to distribute to students who registered for the site.



COURTESY OF KELSEY DONOHUE

The advertising team introduced z-man, the social search superhero, as the face of zaahah's advertising campaign.

They have also hosted multiple events such as a Trivia Night at Nolan's and a Beach Party on the Beach in front of the library. While all of the events were crucial in helping spread the word about zaahah.com, the Trivia game demonstrated the function of the site to students. Participants searched for the answers to the trivia questions using zaahah.com.

"We made extremehard questions," Scheininger said about the trivia event.

The class also established themselves in the social networking scene. They introduced Z-man, a mascot they created for the site and the face of their campaign.

"We created a mascot called 'z-man' who's the social search superhero. But he is the face of our campaign. He is all over facebook and twitter," Scheininger said.

The class's campaign is

also entered in the startUP productions Marketing Competition, competing against campaigns of 12 other schools across the country

"At the end of the semester, we will be graded and compared to how we did versus how the other schools did," Scheininger

If the class's campaign is selected as a finalist, class will have a chance to win money for the Center for Leadership Education. The class is highly motivated but sees the challenges ahead.

"[The goal of 75,000 registrations] will be a little bit hard for us, just because our school is so small but we hope that they take into account that we are a small school competing with much larger schools," Scheininger said.

Overall, students have found the class invigorating and engaging for different reasons.

"There's just so much

that goes into what we do that it's hard to say what we learned in one sentence," Scheininger said. "And I really think if you were to talk to somebody else in the class they would say they learned five different things than what I would say and somebody else would say even five more things. It depends on what you are getting involved in and I absolutely suggest everyone take this class if you have any interest in advertising, event plan-ning [public relations] or graphic design or anything, it's a great opportunity to kind of find your niche in what you like to do if you are at all interested in any of the

The class's campaign ends at this Saturday's lacrosse game versus Maryland where the z-man interacting with the fans. Zaahah giveaways will be distributed among the



Zagrah

COURTESY OF KELSEY DONOHUE The z-man striking a pose at the Inner Harbor with his letter z logo.

#### Website helps students find free food

By SINDU RAVI Staff Writer

Food is essential for college students to fuel their studies and activities, but many students have strict criteria when selecting and obtaining food. Some students need food has to be easy to make or to covertly eat in the library. Others need it to be low on calories when dieting or able to power all-nighter when studying late. Though different students want different things, cheap and free food is a universal prefer-

Nourishmeforfree. com, a website that was launched at the beginning of the semester, is updated daily to show events with free food on campus. It lists and categorizes free food offered during each event each day, from light refreshments to free pizza to coffee, pastries

The site also contains a link so students can "submit a tip" if they know about free food on campus. Students can also sign up to receive regular email updates about the events. These resources give students a direct source for students to find free food at events oncampus.

Some of the site's feedback has been positive.

'Nourishmeforfree.com is such a great website, I can get all the free food I want even when I'm pulling all-nighters to study," Seti Elmasri, a junior, said.

The website now has a mailing list, Facebook page and twitter, making the site's contents even more accessible.

Nourishmeforfree.com is run by Hopkins students junior Will Shepherdson, the creator of the website, as well as senior TJ Bozada and junior Cary Glynn. They keep the site running and useful for students

However, free food is not the only aim of nourishmeforfree.com. Shepherdson hopes that it will become a way to help the Hopkins community, especially the student organizations on campus.

'For a college student, this website is an easy way to find free food events,' Shepherdson said. "Nourishmeforfree.com also serves as a

promotional vehicle for student activ-Student for food at thev and want people to come to their activities. By advertising free food at their

events, student groups provide incentives for JHU students to attend these events, generating higher event turnouts. All student groups have to do is submit tips to nourishmeforfree.com of the free food offered at any of their events to attract students who visit the website."

The site also hopes to extend its scope to the graduate community as well by getting graduate student organizations to send tips for free food at their events.

"Well, there are a lot of graduate organizations on campus, and I know they want undergrads to attend their events so I would like the site to be able to bridge the gap between undergrads and grads in terms of participation in events," Shepherdson said.

Despite the site's success, there were a lot of challenges for the students developing the site.

The site's main goal was to be easy for students at Hopkins to view and navigate. Shepherdson aimed to make the website be a single page with no user registration.

"I tried really hard to make nourishmeforfree. com easy to view and use for JHU students," Shepherdson said. "I wanted to make nourishmeforfree. com as immediately useful as possible. h e

website

also faced

the obstacle

of convincing student

groups to

ing in tips.

However,

creator

has been

receiving

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support

For a college groups. student, this groups pay a website is an easy lot of money way to find free their events food events.

-WILL SHEPHERDSON, UNIOR

> feedback. "Everybody I've talked to about the website has been really happy," Shepherdson said.

The site is still looking to make improvements on the site, including allowing student groups to independently post events on the site by themselves, rather than sending a tip that must go through the site's admin. Additionally, the site also hopes to expand its student staff to make improvements on the site

Shepherdson is also looking to expand the site and bring it to other college campuses with hungry college students.

'I'm looking to expand this site to other universities as well and be able to make a national website with links to individual nourishmeforfree web pages for each American university. Then, I hope to make this national website able to locate site visitors by location as well as their respective colleges," Shepherdson said.



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## Football player presents on professional career, faith, family

Stover kicks off FCA's Bible Study with a discussion of his life in the NFL

FCA, FROM A1 divorced-she'd be worth a lot," Stover said, "I say that humorously, but I'm

not kidding you. Stover revealed that he did not always have his priorities straight. He said that God allowed for free will and for him to choose things, but did not make him choose to sin.

I had the whole world and was forfeiting my own soul," Stover said.

Stover emphatically asserted he has improved himself from his former state and has learned what being a man is.

finally understood that the first definition of a man is that he first must accept responsibility. A man is somebody who says my wife, my daughter, my job I am responsible for and I must deal with these issues. Which brings me to the second issue, which is I reject passivity then next thing is that you must lead courageously. Somebody that leads courageously does it even if it's hard," Stover said.

Stover continued by claiming that despite his success as an athlete, he led an empty life. Now, however, he is fulfilled by giving back to others and leading a Christian life.

"Even though I reached the pinnacle of my career. it was still empty, and it did come to an end," Stover said. "People always ask me, 'What are you doing now?' I say, I'm serving. Number one, I'm serving my family. Number two, I'm serving the community, which of course is the Lord. . .and the church."

Stover declared that he leaves the world of football without regrets because what he truly feels remorse for is mistreating people who are important to him, such as his family, and not a failure in football.

"When I look back at my career, I don't have regret. I don't have regret of missing a 51-yard field goal. . .I do have regret for how I've handled situations with my family or people, but I know I've been forgiven. .I know that if I make the right choices, and I stay accountable, and I journal, and I do the things that God has asked me to do, there's going to be a whole lot less regret in my life than if I didn't," Stover

Senior Stephanie Fong, soph-Katie omores Brooks, Jared Beekman and Eva Smith and juniors Megan Hogdson and Marie Ferguson organized the

FCA to bring Stover to speak because he personifies the intersection of religion and sports. It strove to broaden the perspective of its members.

"This semester, we made an effort to bring guest speakers to our group in order to gain perspectives on faith beyond what our weekly Bible studies typically entail," senior Stephanie FCA, wrote in an

email to The News-Letter. I personally was excited to learn about how he applies Christianity to his life, and of course, to hear stories from his life and career in the NFL."

The strength of Stover's presentation lied in exposing the glamorous world of the NFL, while also detailing experiences with which FCA members could relate.

"As a graduating senior whose career in basketball has come to an end, I could also relate to what he said about the end of your competitive career as a death of sorts, but ultimately, that we are defined by much more than our sports or achievements," Fong wrote.

The reception amongst FCA members who attended the event was positive. It had an impact on them as students, athletes and Christians.

"As a student, it made me think of my sport in more realistic terms - that I won't have it forever and academics are still really important; as an athlete, it made me recognize that I can use the spotlight to or lose or no matter how I play; as a Christian, it reaffirmed that Christ re-



Fong, President of Stover shared his experiences as an athlete and a Christian, to which many athletes at Hopkins could relate.

ally does fill an emptiness that no amount of worldly things can fulfill," freshman KC Emerson wrote in an email to The News-

Specifically, the story Stover told about missing the kick against the Saints made an impression among FCA members, demonstrating to them how even his failure glorified God.

"I was impacted greatest by the story he told about Jim Nance talking on air about God and Matt Stover during the 2009 Superbowl, and it was inspiring how he gave God the glory even when he missed the kick against the Saints," sophomore FCA member mail to The News-Letter



The Women's Lacrosse Team attended Stover's presentation to FCA.

COURTESY OF KATIE RROOKS A full audience received the Ravens kicker with interest in his career.

#### put all eyes on Him and off of me and that I just need to give God the glory, win

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#### No shoes, no safety for students

The event consisted of several fun, foot-related activities - including a "shoe

check, where peocould leave their I believe the shoes for a impact of this couple hours to join the campaign pledge, feet supercedes the painting and "foot cost of buying a interactive" games such new pair of shoes. Twister and Hopscotch. In SANTANA, addition,

Toms which they would be able to design at a second event called "Style Your

people could

order for a

blank pair of

place

"I think it's great that they've managed to tie in fun games to raise awareness for a really concerning topic," sophomore Becky Sturner said. "It's important to get the message out in a way that will engage college students."

Some students echoed these sentiments.

"It's important to build global awareness on cam-

pus because we're often in our own Hopkins bubble here," junior Stephanie Caronna said.

Junior Stephanie Spetka said she attended the event because she has always been

"It's good cause and I've always - MONIKA ticipated in "One Day Without SENIOR Shoes" April 10," she said.

> Stein the president of the Public Health Brigades and attributes a lot of the inspiration for her decision to organize the event on her past experiences in Hon-

"I saw a lot of kids running around without shoes where there was broken glass, construction and other hazards," she said. "It was an eyeopening experience. I've stepped on my fair share of rocks today and it's not fun. I can't imagine doing it every day."

The event demonstrated the difficulties of not wearing shoes and the health risks involved. Every few squares on the Hopscotch course had facts about foot-related illnesses that can develop as a result of going barefoot in less than prime conditions. One square read: "Millions of children around the world are at risk of injury, disease, and soil-transmitted infections because they do not have proper footwear." The next square over stated: "Hookworm can cause intestinal pain, weakness, and cognitive impairment." Another square said: "Children who are healthy are more likely to be successful students.'

"I would definitely go to an event like this in the future. I believe the impact of this campaign supersedes the cost of buying a new pair of shoes," senior Monika Santana said.

At the event, senior Jenny Hession dipped her foot in bright blue paint and proceeded to make footprints on a large banner.

"It's a fun way to support a really fantastic cause," she said.

#### **NEWS & FEATURES**

## Hopkins students succeed at SABRE Business Simulation Competition

discipline in the past three decades.

The team traveled to Louisiana over spring break to compete on Mar.

"[It was] against all odds," junior Carasiti, a Mechanical Engineering major, said.

'We're all incredibly happy," he said. "Preparation was minimal and the software required [by the competition] usually poses a learning curve - but it looks like we broke it."

The SABRE contest is hands-on, analytical test of students' ability to succeed in a dynamic marketplace. The initials SABRE stand for Strategic Allocation of Business Resources.

It injects its participants into a simulated 'year" (seven hours) in a competitive business market, during which analyses are made, goods are purchased, employees are hired and, ultimately, a company report is compiled: a close quality

evaluation of which determines the winner.

"Participants make their decisions in the face of uncertain market conditions, including competitor's moves," the AMA website's page for the 2012 competition said. "As is often the case in real life, there is no one specific solution to a problem but there are alternatives that are clearly superior or in-

During the seven-hour contest, these solutions come in hyper-real-time, Carasiti said.

"We had a morning and afternoon to make decisions that a firm generally makes in a year," he said. "And we were definitely learning as we went along.

He cites the Hopkins' apparent "underdog" status as initially daunting, and the competition they faced as even more so.

'We were up against teams like [the University of Pennsylvanial, which offers a full course to train students in the competition's marketing software. It was stressful at first, but when we jumped ahead of Penn in the second half, we thought 'wow, we've



COURTESY OF LESLIE KENDRICK CREDIT

The Hopkins team, Brooks, Carasiti, Le, Mulholland, Suter and Yaccarino, placed third at the competition

never done this before, and now we're beating one of the country's best marketing teams.' That's when we really became emotionally invested in it," he

> Xiao Le, a junior Chemical & Biomolecular Engineering major, concurred.

"Penn competes every year, and this was our first. And we beat them," he wrote in an email to The

experience they had to the

table. Still, it'd be great if we

had people who are experts

dance has increased since

HUBS began holding these

back to the original idea of

the Ancient Greeks - to

provide good food, good

events two years ago.

"A symposium

Rattani noted that atten-

moderating."

News-Letter.

Leslie Kendrick, who the Hopkins chapter of the AMA, suggests that Hopkins' triumph derives from the raw ability of its team, with preparation - however minimal - as an ancillary benefit.

"The performance of our students who are minoring in Entrepreneurship & Management shows

people and good conver-

sation all together," he

said. "We tried to bring

that here. Our belief is that

people don't want to go to a

lecture after they just came

from a lecture. They want

to do something that em-

powers them and makes

them think more. Every-

thing that we try to do fos-

that they can compete with the likes of marketing majors at [Hopkins' peer institutions]," Kendrick wrote in an email to The News-

Hopkins offers no marketing major, but Kendrick, with two decades of experience in the Baltimore chapter of the AMA, utilizes the Entrepreneurship & Management minor and the Center for Leadership Education to identify students with marketing skills and link them with the local marketing network - an invaluable aspect of the AMA, Carasiti said.

became active [in AMA] this fall, when Professor Kendrick pushed me into it because I'm an engineer, since SABRE is just a lot of numbers. I've since had the opportunity to shadow the Chief Managing Officer of the Baseball Factory," he said, referring to the athletic education fa cility twenty miles south of Baltimore.



inspire · connect · create

It's important

to discuss what

the issues facing

healthcare in the

developing world

COURTESY OF AMA The American Market Association hosted the business competition.

American Marketing Association

#### Students debate bioethics and health care with HU

RESEARCH, FROM PAGE A1 countries who participate in research?

audience were students looking to earn extra credit class.

in their Introduction Moral Philosophy

class. "I came to the event because could . extra credit for my Introduction Moral Philosophy class, but I also enjoyed it because it was like an

outlet to talk about important issues, global issues, without having to necessarily examine it from an academic lens. It was more about how you felt about issues on instinct," freshman Jeremy Lin said.

Some students enjoyed Some members of the coming, despite originally attending for the sake of a

> "I'm glad that the professor this as an extra credit signment, because otherwise probably would not have heard of it," sopho--CHLOE REICHEL, more Christi-

na Luk said. FRESHMAN In contrast, Chloe Reichel,

freshman, attended the event because she is a Philosophy major and found the topic inter-

esting.
"I think this event is especially pertinent now with the Affordable Care Act before the Supreme Court," she said. "It's important to discuss what the issues facing healthcare in the developing world are. My favorite part was being able to discuss these issues with other people who have a background in ethics or are interested in it."

The event was discussion based, encouraging everyone to speak out regardless of their back-

"I was surprised that people were very well informed by things," sophomore Morgan Halstead said. "Even people who were initially hesitant to join in eventually got the hang of it. I like that aspect of it and how it was a lot of open discussion. Nobody ever said you're wrong. It was very respectful."

Halstead was not the only one who thought the

> "I'm pleased with the turnout," Abbas Rattani, Director of HUBS and Research Program Coordinator at the Berman stitute of Bioethics, said. "Ideally, we would like to have better technology and faculty moderating some of things. these Most of the moderators are students - most of them have trained to moderate by me and they brought what-







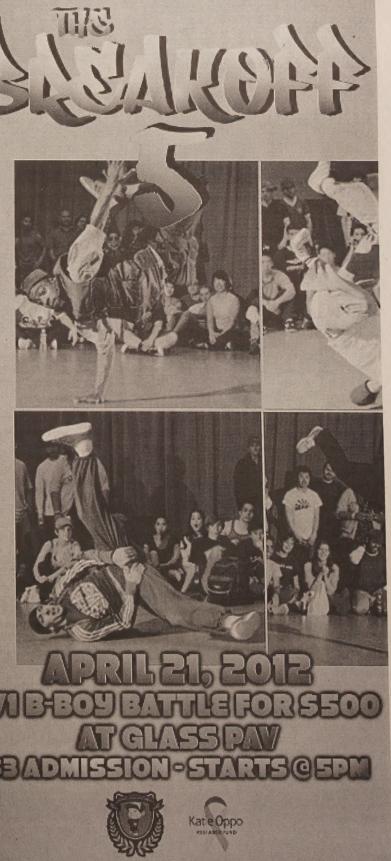
Small groups discussed the implications of health care and research worldwide.

Between April 5th at 2:00 AM and April 6th at 9:30 AM, an undergraduate student's mountain bike was taken from the bike rack. The cable lock securing the bike had been cut. Investigation continuing.

On April 7th at 9:50 PM, an undergraduate was bicycling southbound (wrong direction) in northbound lane of the Charles St. service lane. The bicyclist collided with a car being driven northbound by a graduate student who was making a right turn. An ambulance responded for the bicyclist who did not appear to be injured. The bicyclist declined to be transported to the hospital for assessment. There was no damage to the bicycle or vehicle.

On April 8th at 11:48 PM, an unknown male removed a box of two-dozen candy bars from the store without paying and ran south in the 3000 Blk. of Lovegrove Street. Baltimore Police and campus officers searched the area with negative results. Investigation continuing.

On April 9th between 10:30 AM and 1:30 PM, unknown individual(s) cut a cable lock and removed an undergraduate's mountain bike which had been secured to the bike rack. Investigation continuing.



NEWS & FEATURES

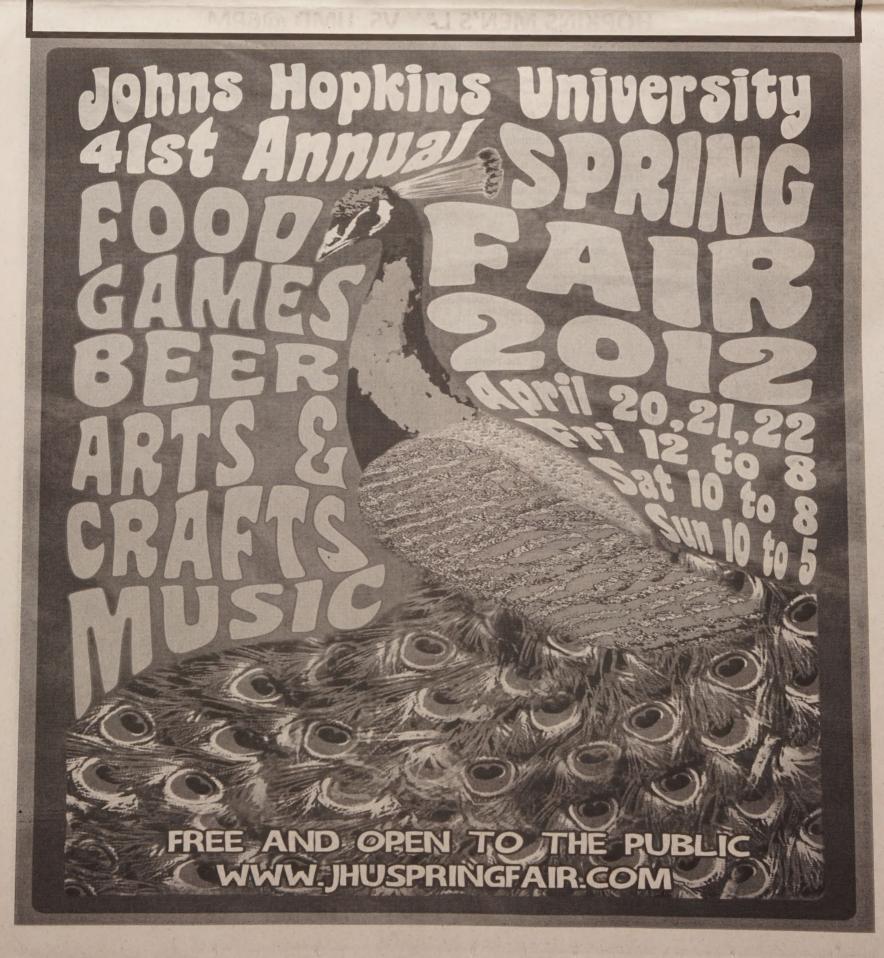
66I'M YOUR BIGGEST FAN, I'LL FOLLOW YOU UNTIL YOU LOVE ME...

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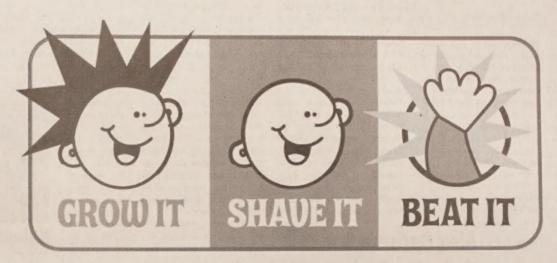
#### **COME SAVE KIDS WITH CANCER**

Support the JHU St. Baldrick's Foundation Event and watch the head-shaving of Hopkins Athletic Director, Tom Calder, and other volunteers during the half-time of the Men's Lacrosse game vs. University of Maryland.

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JHU ST. BALDRICK'S DAY APRIL 14<sup>th</sup> 2012

HOPKINS MEN'S LAX VS. UMD @6PM



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#### HIP HOP

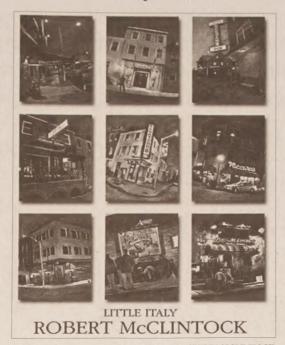
The next generation of COLUMNS is here. This is the place for restaurants, fashion, fitness, cooking, relationships, lifestyle and trends

### Get a taste for Little Italy at La Tavola, Vaccaro's Wake up Hopkins,

he cab ride was almost better than the We perience. stepped into a cab on St. Paul Street, and our cabbie immediately sensed that we are food critics from the way we were blabbing about food, articles, restaurants, etc. He gave us his personal opinions about restaurants in Baltimore's Little Italy, listing Sabatino's as one of the best and encouraging us to look up "Best of Baltimore" restaurants on the spot. Thirty dollars later, we pulled up to La Tavola, characteristic of a typical Little Italy restaurant but not featured on the Best of Baltimore list. A kind woman greeted us, but what started out as friendly small talk quickly turned into a conversation about thinning hair. Not exactly what we had in mind to first start off our pasta meal.

We were seated at a table and looked around to assess our surroundings. Only two other tables were filled, and let's just say we brought down the age average in the room significantly. The room was too quiet, but at the same time we felt like the classical music was blaring in our ears. The frescos on the yellow walls were barely visible in the dim lighting, and yellowed curtains topped off the decorations. Granted, we dined at La Tavola early on a Monday evening. Nevertheless, we were relieved when the bread and olive oil arrived, and after deeming it delicious, we were hopeful that the food would remedy the ambiance.

We perused the menu and decided on a salad to start with two different pasta dishes. Less than five minutes after placing our order, the salad showed up on our table. This was



COURTESY OF ROBERT MCCLINTOCK

An artistic rendering of Little Italy, by city great Robert McClintock

disconcerting. We understand that the restaurant was not bustling, but we would have liked more time to build our appetites and enjoy the good breadbasket. Our salad, the Insalata Tavola, consisted of arugula tossed in lemon vinaigrette, roasted sweet peppers, hearts of palm and was topped with a Portobello mushroom. The mushroom was packed with flavor and we devoured

stantly,

other

ingre-

dient

tasted

bland.

Alex Barbera & **Georgina Rupp Delicious Dishing:** The PhenomeNOMS

hearts of palm, which had caused us to order the dish, were tasteless and watery and seemed to have come from a can. The lemon vinaigrette tasted

sourer than citrus, and this was the salad's ultimate downfall.

As critics who try to find the positive in our reviews, we didn't want to throw in the towel too soon before tasting La Tavola's signature homemade pastas. We had ordered a special capellini tossed with sausage, peppers and mushrooms in linguini tossed with olives and

tomatoes in a tomato pesto sauce. There was just the right amount of pasta on each

plate in an appetizing and colorful presentation. The pasta itself was high quality. It was cooked to perfection, al dente and was, without a

Unfortunately, the dishes themselves were not up to par. The flavors of the pasta dishes did not meld well together; they seemed random and separate. In the special pasta, we identified the same sweet pepper ingredient and the same taste that we had not really enjoyed just moments before in our salad course. The sausage was decent but not tasty enough for us to clean off our plate. The linguini dish was better, and it seems that simple is better in this restaurant. We did not taste the pesto flavor of the sauce at all, but, if we'd been expecting simple tomato sauce pasta, this would have hit the spot. At the end of the meal,

we decided that the food was mediocre and not extremely exciting. Although the pasta was decent, we were simply not wowed by the meal. And being the food critiques are with extremely palettes, sensitive Tavola just didn't satisfy our refined taste. Leaving the restaurant, we took our leftover pasta (definitely a more enjoyable midnight snack than artificial ramen noodles) and headed down the street to Vaccaro's, a small Italian

café, for dessert. Vaccaro's offers traditional Italian pastries, the most popular of those being their cannoli. We are not the biggest fans of cannoli, but after tasting one of these cannoli shells filled with fresh cream and chocolate chips on the spot, we had to purchase five more. Clearly, these did the trick. We can thank Vaccaro's for finally allowing us to appreciate Peter Clemenza's wise instructions in The Godfather: "Leave the gun. Take

## there is more out there

There is so much to your life than grades

recently had an induced epiphany. During dinner with adult family friends, people with whom I am quite close, the following statement was made: The biggest thing you're doing wrong is not having enough fun in college." This was, of course directed at me. Until spring break of this year, I was in many ways a model student. I never missed a reading in a single class (around 80 percent of my schoolwork is reading) and stressed when B's appeared on ISIS. I came to Hopkins to work, and work I did: hard. School was my absolute priority. I still maintained a semblance of a social life, was heavily involved in student organizations and had enough free time to not go entirely insane. But

a regular occurrence.

friend's carmand has, in a very short time, had a profound impact on how I live my life Homeat wood. No longer do I view every assignment as essential (let's be real, how many other people read even 50 percent of the assign-

ments? A small percentage I'd bet). Of the around ten internships I applied to for the summer, only one

asked for a transcript. Sure, I want to keep my GPA up for the prospect of graduate school, but maybe grades just aren't as important as I previously felt. To be fair, I regularly gave hypocritical advice to friends, saying that grades didn't matter in the grand scheme and that success was about who you are as a person. I believed every word, and still do, but wasn't able to act until

I am just one student, a dabbler, as some would put it, in arts and crafts But people, it's just not worth it. Complaining about school is one thing, totally normal, but letting it rule your life is straight up wrong. Have you ever walked to the Guilford tulip garden? Have you ever thrifted in Hampden? Have you ever been

> you heard of any of these places? Hopkins as an entity does a horrible job of helping students get out of the dents bubble, and at a place like Hopkins with a large number of fairly anti-social students, the school needs to take a more active role

Nicholas DePaul

Voice from the

Underground

This column engages

political, cultural and

through provocative and

occasionally radical

argument.

issues

philosophical

to Chaps Pit

Beef? Have

in promoting bubble-bursting. have many specific suggestions, but they are for a later column.

One of the great things about Homewood is the number of flowering trees and plants on campus. I love to stand under the magnolias and stare up at the blue sky through the pink blossoms. But I never see anyone else doing the same. I never see anyone just relaxing and taking in the beauty of our campus. Far more common is distraught, talking-tohimself student running head down, clutching a thick book and loose-leaf pages. If this describes you, WAKE UP. You will be happier if you relax, take a deep breath and accept that there is a world beyone to-day life. I do not imply that everyone at Hopkins is depressed and school obsessed, but I am comfortable in asserting that a large population of such students exists. I am also not advocating slacking off!

I've been practicing the following process: the choice is to do work that isn't essential, or grab a beer with friends. Which will make me happier? Friends, beer. What is the downside? Not as prepared for class. Can I bulls--t in class? Probably. How much longer do I have with these friends? Not long. Embrace the moment. College flies by. How often do you hear adults reminiscing about their college experiences? They probably aren't talking about that one philosophy reading or chemistry problem set. I regret taking so long to get to this point, but now that I'm over the hump, I doubt I'll ever go back. Perhaps I'm too pragmatic, and if I get burned then I'll live with it. So I'm go; ing to stop writing and go to a BBQ. Sun's out, cherry trees in bloom. . .ah Hopkins, I'm gonna miss you. I'm so glad and proud that I can say that.

#### Thailand houses beautiful beaches and the Grand Palace

diatribe, would like to talk to you about Thailand. I wrote a little bit about Thailand last semester in my column about my first trip to Asia, but this second experience was very different, and I went to different places so I think it deserves its own column.

For those of you who haven't been reading my last few columns, I spent my intersession in Asia visiting my boyfriend Angus, who is spending the year abroad at Peking University in Beijing China. After a mere two days in the frigid cold of Beijing, we couldn't wait to hop on a plane and get to Thailand, along with its beautiful 85 degree weather.

Our flight didn't get into Bangkok until 2 AM, but Angus's friend Pong (who he went to high school with) greeted us at the airport and took us to hotel. our The next day we met up with another of An-

gus's friends named Book, who took us to the Grand Palace, where the Kings of Thailand lived

until 1925. The current King lives in the Chitralada Palace, but he continues to use the Grand Palace for special functions. When we arrived at the palace, there were men at the door telling us that the palace was closed for the next hour. I was suspicious, but for some reason decided not to

Then they put us in a tuk tuk and told us we were going on a boat ride. definitely a scam. But at this point I just went along with it because I had not gotten to do the boat ride the last time I was in

er, that they had succeeded in fooling Book who actually speaks Thai. Although to his credit he has never had to deal with all of this touristy stuff.

The boat ride ended up being awesome. It turns out that there are lots of little canals running through the old parts of the city, and for the first time I got

un-modernized heart and soul of the city.

This was where the lower-midlived, with their houses right against the water. What I liked about it was that it just seemed

There were laundry lines hanging over decks, while other decks were filled with potted plants that looked like they could fall into the water at any moment.

Carter Banker

The Globetrotter

Hopkins travels far and

wide. Get inspired for

your next adventure!

It was like a third-world version of Venice. So if you ever find yourself at the Grand Palace in Thailand, just let them trick you. It means that you are pouring money into the local economy (I assume that the guys who drive the boats and the taxis share the profits with the men at the doors of the palace) and you will get to have a very unique and photoworthy experience. If you don't like how sketchy that sounds, you can also probably arrange it through

Anyway, afterward, we made our way back to the Grand Palace, which similar to Thai religious temples, was adorned with beautiful colors, shiny mosaic tiles and gold

Very unlike any European palace you will ever see, the Grand Palace looks almost otherworldly. Even though it is the top tourist destination in Bangkok, and is therefore very crowded, its well worth a visit-just make sure you

long wear pants and have your shoulders covered, or else you will have to rent clothes!

The morning flew we Phuket. the famous beach area in southern Thailand. Although we found a few really good restaurants, I was overall pretty disappointed with Phuket. On our first full

to the beach closest to our hotel. After seeing a few too many men and women overcrowding the beaches leaving little to the imagination, along with getting stung by something in the water, we decided to leave after an hour and a half and we didn't go back to the beach once in the rest of our four days.

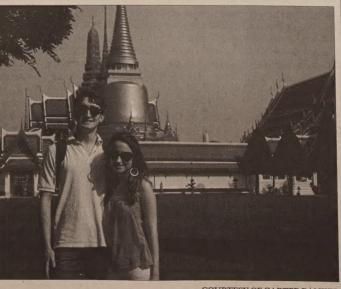
I will say, however, that if you can get over the crowd on the beaches, the beaches themselves are quite beautiful. I think a large part of my disappointment with Phuket can be blamed on my personality.

I don't do so well with the whole "sitting still" thing, I like to travel around and see the sites. But when it's 90 degrees and there isn't a whole lot to see, it makes life difficult for people like me. We did manage to have a few interesting excursions,

however. Phuket town is very un-touristy and is full of beautiful old Sino-Portuguese architecture. The old governor's mansion has a restaurant and cooking classes inside! Another cool outing was our daylong boat ride to explore the islands around Phuket.

We got to go snorkeling and see some really beautiful beaches. We got to meet some interesting people as well. Our boat had about 20 people on it and they were from all over the world - Australia, South Africa, Iceland, Scotland, Brazil and England.

I recommend land whole-heartedly to any and everyone. It is an amazing country with so much to see and do. If you're not a beach person though, I might recommend staying north, where you can find lots of culture and adventure.



COURTESY OF CARTER BANKER day, we went Angus and Carter visited the beautifully adorned Grand Palace in Thailand

#### HIP HOP

BUT ALSO observations, rants, lists, thoughts, feelings, missed connections, haikus, confessions, furtive glances and, of course, sex.

## Instagram, Bubba Watson, Mike Kanen and the "Call me Maybe" campaign



Dan LeBatard Show LeBatardShow Public and private pressure is too great....Expect Marlins to discipline Ozzie today

Loose lipped, hot headed Miami Marlins head coach, Ozzie Guillen got into a little bit of hot water lately with his recent comments to *Time Magazine* somewhat praising Cuban dictator, Fidel Castro. Yes, everyone is entitled to their own opinion (right or wrong), but definitely not a smart move to come out and say it in a national publication, especially when a large chunk of your fan base is Cuban-Americans.



Landry Fields @landryfields
In case you didn't know, that's the NBA! Shout out to
@carmeloanthony, let that boy cook! #HappyEaster
Retweeted 1361 times

Happy Easter and Happy Passover to everyone! On Easter Sunay, the Knicks had a huge win over the Chicago Bulls which came by way of a last second three by Carmelo Anthony. Have NY fans finally gotten what the team has paid for? Will Carmelo Anthony take his stellar play on Sunday into the playoffs (if they even make it)? We shall see, but Stanford Alum, Landry Fields seems pretty excited.



Your tweets have been heard! The PINK driver is now available!! % of PING proceeds go towards charity. Info here bit.ly/ID4Bfp

Who doesn't love to watch The Masters? I don't really like to play/watch golf but I still find myself watching each and following every step of the four golf majors year after year. Bubba Watson came up huge this past weekend to win his first green jacket. It was really a feel good story, and, along with his great play and laid back attitude (as well as his emotional post victory interviews), it was really something great to watch and great for the sport.



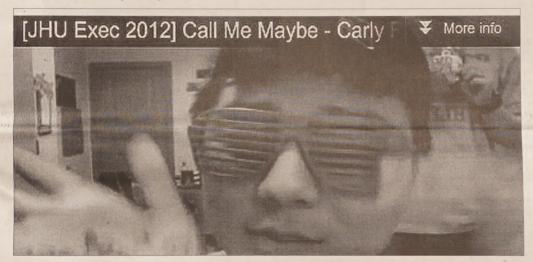
Stuart Johnson @stuio11
About time RT @HopkinsSports: Kanen Named CC Player of the Week tinvurl.com/74rew6x

CC pitcher nightmare and *The News-Letter's* own, Mike Kanen, has been doing big things on the baseball diamonds. After really stepping up this past weekend, Kanen was honored with CC player of the week. Stuart Johnson, Hopkins baseball's radio announcer (similar to Joe Buck, but has nicer hair and a better grasp for the sport of Baseball), is extending his congrafulatory tweet. Well deserved for a great teammate! Congrats.



HuffPost Tech @HuffPostTech
Instagram worth more than New York Times, Office Depot, Papa
Johns and other huge companies. See the full list: huff.to/leuRyr

Mark Zuckerberg has always wanted to improve the way that friends share photos with one another, and, after purchasing Instagram for roughly a billion dollars, he may have done just that. It will be exciting to see where Facebook will take it in the future. Looking at this tweet, it's cool to think that one little App is now worth more than some of America's top literary establishments and businesses.



With JHU election season well on its way, we can all enjoy a good laugh from one campaign's video, a remake of Carly Rae Jepsen's "Call Me Maybe" music video. Although the video may lack the beauty of Ashley Tisdale, the dance moves of Justin Bieber or even the camera skills of some of the most amateur of YouTube artists, this video is still worth a watch. Any campaign team that is willing to put themselves out there like this is certainly in it to win it.



8 Apr







**Ryan Kahn** *Tweets of the Week* 

This weekly column features some of the top posts around the Twitter realm that deal with the week's top stories in sports, politics, pop culture and all things news.

## More similar to your parents than you think

y nose. Dad. My eyebrows. Dad again. Random bursts of energy. Yeah, that's Dad. My perpetually chapped lips. Mom. My chin. Mom again. My window-shopping tendencies. Definitely, Mom. Ev-

erv kid has certain traits from their parents, but, apart from the obvious ones, ways thought of myself as separate entity completely influenced by their presence in my life. That was until recent-

ly.

It was my sister's fourth tibaby shower this past liweekend. Naturally I decided to contribute by baking cupcakes. Two boxes of Betty Crocker yellow cake mix later, I realized something was missing. To make it taste better I added

'secret ingredients," aka

butter and sour cream,

A column about my

and, lo and behold, it actually came out tasting mighty good. My mom wouldn't let me forget it. At the baby shower, she constantly updated me on the status of remaining cupcakes and nearly fainted when people ate all of them. She was a proud mom.



ized that I

was more family like than I thought. Her beautician and event-planning licenses are proof of her constantly fluctuating interests. Her varying interests boils down to the fact that she wants to do so much, and that's me. The future gets me nervous because I want to do so much, and I never know how I will work it all out without sacrificing one

thing for another. A few days later I had another epiphany, this time about my dåd. One of my good friends here had one of her friends from Cali visit, and she coerced me into going out with them. If you know me, you also know that I don't really go out, not because I stay in to study on a Friday night, but because I would rather stay in and read Game of Thrones. So I went to the Spring Fling, and a little over an hour later I slipped away from my friends. I tried to make up excuses for leaving early but it was pointless. I went back to my dorm and lay in bed, loving it.

The next day I called up my dad and told him I'm not normal. I should not prefer lying in bed with a book as a college freshman — he just laughed. I laughed too because I tend to slightly dramatize everything I say, but then he said I was like him. I thought about it and knew he was right. I can go out but I can't stay out. I'd rather chill; whenever I think of home that's exactly what my dad does, stay in and watch the History and DIY channel (not constantly seeking out his friends because he enjoys his "me" time).

I challenge you to think about what behaviors/characteristics you've adopted from your parents. It's actually pretty fun, try it. Then call them up and say thanks, they've shaped you into who you are today.

Bringing down the beat: The business aspect behind house music

past few years, the music industry has undergone, and is still seeing, a gigantic, beat-filled transformation. Instead of the tight pants of rockers, or the gold-plated grills of rappers, an increasing number of artists and music fans are switching their allegiance to thumping basses, strobe lights and glowsticks. What once was regulated to drug filled basement clubs and abandoned factories, house music or electronic dance music, has broken into the mainstream. Listening to the radio, watching commercials or walking around any college campus, the energetic lyrics and drumming beats have quickly assaulted our eardrums, and our culture.

Led by the emphatic and beat dropping David Guetta, whose meteoric rise has made him one of the most sought after DJ/producers in the world, electronic music has definitively crossed over into the mainstream. Guetta, who is largely given credit for this transition, is a unique artist whose feel good vibes and infectious energy has brought him the title of #1 DJ in the world and millions of fans all over the globe. What the Beatles did for the Rock & Roll, Guetta, whose success is documented in the film Nothing but the Beat, has paved the way for dance music into mainstream pop culture. His collaborations with numerous R&B and Rap stars, including Akon, Rihanna and Usher, in his words, have "created a bridge between electronic and urban."

and urban culture" that has been met with several chart topping hits, two Grammy's,

and serious commercial success.
How serious? Well, reports
have said that he makes
over one million dollars for
a festival appearance and
ten million for his Las Vegas Night Club residency.
These numbers have become common for other top
DJ's and are only one aspect
that shows how big the mu-

sic has gotten. Electronic concerts and festivals have also gotten more extravagant and more lucrative. The recent Ultra Music Festival in Miami saw a record attendance of 160,000 for the three day festival, with many of the attendees paying over \$400 for a three day pass. In the last two years alone, the attendance has gone up by 65,000 people. On the West Coast, the even bigger Electric Daisy Carnival in Las Vegas attracted over 240,000 people in 2011 for its three day event. Headlining these events are a growing number of wellknown DJ's who have come to embody the new elec-

tronic wave, such as Avicii,

Afrojack and Skrillex. Max Nimaroff, a current junior at Hopkins and avid house music fan, was in Miami for Ultra this Spring Break

Greg Bratone:

Specialist in the arts,
entertainment, and all
things fun

and experienced the madness first hand.
A s k e d
w h a t
m a k e s
t h e s e
types of
festivals

festivals so popular, Max sees the electronic music "as a type of music that appeals to everyone. It's an exciting escape from reality that caters around the audience, instead of the artists."

Along with festivals, it is not unusual for these DJ's to sell out the same stadiums that Bruce Springsteen and Coldplay perform in, in only a matter of hours. These concerts and spectacle festivals have been mostly dominated by a few inside, independent promoters who have kept tight control over the production. On the other side of this are a number of outside promoters including Live Nations and A.E.G., who are on the outside looking in, and are ready to offer big money for a slice of the electronic pie. In the recent New York Times article "Electronic Dance Concerts Turns Up The Volume, Tempt Investors", Ben Sisario describes the newfound interest in electronic dance concerts and how its playing out in Wall Street. With Wall Street taking notice, a slew of eager investors are ready to offer tens of millions of dollars in order to buy these promotion companies and make it even bigger. However,

some promoters, like Adam Russakoff, Ultra's director of business, sees outside investment as unnecessary and even dangerous to the concerts growth. While investors claim that outside capital is needed to grow these events, most promoting companies are debt free, have rising profits and don't see a need for outside assistance. For others, investors represent "Big Business" and corporate takeovers that would ruin the individuality and creativity of the festivals and would make it "mainstream" but more in a bad way.

For weary investors and the casual observers, electronic music may just turn out to be a fad, like "supermaning a hoe" or mullets. It has only been a few years, but the success seems real and here to stay.



COURTESY OF FRONT ROW PITS AND PAVEMENT
World-famous DJ/Producer David Guetta brings down the house with a sold out performance

## NEWS-LETTER

Published since 1896 by the students of The Johns Hopkins Unive

#### **Editorial**

#### **SGA Election Endorsements**

Every year, The News-Letter Editorial Board issues endorsements after reviewing the platforms of each candidate running for the SGA Executive Board and interviewing the candidates. Endorsement was ultimately given to the candidates who demonstrated the most potential for success, the most experience in student government and the best record in effecting change.

That being said, the Editorial Board has some reservations about the field this year. The two tickets have similar ideas, but seem socially polarized. It is not clear to us that if various members of each ticket were elected to the executive board they would be able to work together effectively. Furthermore, though the candidates clearly put significant effort into their campaigns, they seemed to be somewhat trapped in their rhetoric. The Song ticket circled endessly around the idea of an amorphous "friendship" between the SGA and the student body, and the Larkin ticket referred repeatedly to connections in the administration, which can be helpful, but can aso cause student leaders to lose touch. Below, we will outline these reservations as necessary, provide a brief background of each candidate, a description of their proposed policies and our reasons for endorsing and not endorsing.

On a separate note, we would like to stress the importance and ease of voting in this election, especially because voter turnout has been disappointingly low in previous years. In the 2011 SGA Executive Election, for example, only about 30 percent of the undergraduate student body at Hopkins bothered to vote. Because students need only click a button on their laptops to cast their votes, we see no practical reasons to abstain from voting. To this end, we urge all students to partake in these elections. As they decide who will represent the student body in the upcoming year it would seem that all but seniors have a vested interest in the outcome, and seniors especially should understand the importance of participating after four years here at Hopkins. Students must realize that their votes can have a fundamental impact on our community.

#### SGA President: Wyatt Larkin

The News-Letter takes great care in deciding which presidential candidate to endorse. The SGA president's role is to lead the executive board through all of its decisions and to be the spokesperson for the student body. The two candidates for this position are Moses Song and Wyatt Larkin. While Song is experienced and dedicated to SGA, we believe that Larkin has the skills and experience to make himself an effective leader. Yet, we do not endorse Larkin without reservations. We were somewhat troubled when we observed his interactions with his running mates. Throughout our interview he seemed frustrated, even pained, when another member of his ticket cut him off or strayed from a point he was trying to make. To be a successful leader he will need to become more open and flexible so his frustration does not impede his judgement. Working with

others is a crucial skill on SGA Larkin, nonetheless, has been instrumental in fostering greater transparency in SGA finances, creating the Taxi Share program and improving student life on campus. As part of his campaign, he has made the construction of a student union a top priority. He has also spent the past year meeting with administration officials to make that goal a reality. Larkin has been in SGA since his freshman year, which is a valuable asset in implementing policies. The relationships he has developed with members of the upper administration are invaluable. Larkin is dedicated to bringing more events to Hopkins — including a concert series to entertain students - and improving pedestrian safety by installing red light cameras to reduce speeding in Charles Village. The News-Letter endorsed

Larkin last year for vice president.

Song, his opponent, also has SGA experience, but he has never been a member of the executive board. Furthermore, this page is disappointed by the fact that Song and the rest of his ticket used the same platform outline that the Sabnani campaign used in 2011. This inability to offer new and original ideas to students is troubling. What's more, many of the policies taken from the Sabnani campaign have already been implemented. After being questioned about the similarities between the two platforms, Song and his running mates erased the old Sabnani platform from their website and posted a new one, which included good ideas about uniting the SGA and Hopkins students. The Board believes, however, that the damage has already been done. This incident calls into question the earnestness of the Song campaign.

Song also failed to adequately address the issues of sustainability and pedestrian safety when questioned by the Board. He even responded that his platform makes no mention of sustainability issues because he considers that to be the strength of the Larkin ticket. This Board is skeptical of the Song platform and his presentation left lingering doubts.

#### SGA Vice President: Joanna Gawlik

The SGA vice president has a number of

roles which include supporting the president and running student senate meetings. We believe that rising senior Joanna Gawlik would do an excellent job in this position. Last year, Gawlik received our endorsement for the SGA treasurer position and we are pleased with her success in that position.

Gawlik helped increase the SGA student activities budget by thousands of dollars. She is committed to streamlining the group registration and funding process and she began holding town halls in which group representatives can voice their concerns and contribute ideas for the funding process.

Gawlik's competitor, Alex Schupper, has no SGA Executive Board experience. He does, however, have experience as an SGA senator and many worthy ideas which we believe the SGA should implement. He is also personable and approachable which we feel would allow him to communicate effectively with the student body. We think that his ideas of building an ice rink on campus and holding "team times" with club members to facilitate communication between clubs and the SGA are interesting, if somewhat dubious. In the end, though, we believe Gawlik is the more experienced candidate and has the ability to get her policies implemented.

#### SGA Treasurer: Michael St. Germain

The SGA treasurer's job is to allocate and manage SGA resources, including student group funding. *The News-Letter* chooses to endorse St. Germain because of his proven leadership in managing funds and reforming policies, specifically on the subject of sustainability. He was a Freshman Class Senator last year and is the current chair of the SGA Sustainability Committee.

As chair, St. Germain has shown his ability to secure and manage funds. He is currently working on converting the Blue Jay Shuttle to run on compressed natural gas, which is projected to save the University \$100,000 in 10 years and to cut CO2 emissions by almost 1 million pounds.

All in all, though, the Board was disap-

All in all, though, the Board was disappointed with both tickets' policies on sustainability. St. Germain pledged to, "Work to expand water fountains on campus as part of the 'Take Back the Tap' initiative," but when questioned about the practicality and efficacy of such a program, his responses were lacking. The Board asked how he would go about convincing students to drink Baltimore tap water, which has ranked among the bottom third of drinking water for major U.S. cities and was found by the Environmental Working Group in 2009 to contain "316 contaminants in water delivered to the public," but was displeased with his response, in which he admitted a lack of knowledge about these statistics. Additionally, the Board believes that installing a handful of new water fountains on campus will do little — if anything — to foster sustainable practices on campus. The Board decided, though, that St. Germain offered the experience necessary to implement new policies in the future and manage funds for those projects.

Anna Huang, who is running for treasurer on the Song ticket, has no SGA experience and didn't convince the board that she would be as effective as St. Germain in effecting change and managing University

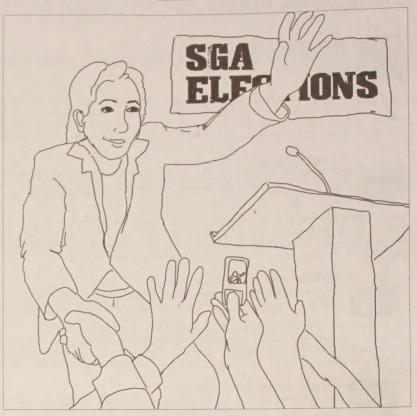
A third candidate for treasurer, Max Dickey, is also running independent of the full tickets. *The News-Letter* failed to meet with Dickey through no fault of his own, but a review of his website showed that his policy initiatives and proposals are somewhat limited. The most important is a club assembly which, if implemented, would strive to improve communication between student groups on campus. This is an excellent idea, but is one that is shared by the other treasurers running in one form or another. Nonetheless, the Editorial Board regrets that it could not meet with Dickey and hopes that students will give his candidacy due consideration.

#### SGA Secretary: Debra Schwitzer

The SGA secretary's role is to maintain the SGA website, write up the meeting minutes and act as a liaison between the executive board and the student body. This year, The News-Letter has decided to endorse Debra Schwitzer for this role. She has been an integral member of the SGA finance committee. A sophomore class senator and economics major, she has communicated with Provost Minor and Dean Connolly to improve the academic advising process. Additionally, she is campaigning strongly for her ticket's commitment to safety and security at Hopkins. She has planned a marketing strategy for reducing jaywalk-ing and is currently working to construct a blue light on Art Museum Drive. As secretary, she would be committed to publishing a clear and transparent SGA budget.

Schwitzer's competitor, Paige Doyle, is very involved on campus but has no SGA experience. The role of secretary is vital to the functioning of the SGA and the Board is skeptical that Doyle will be able to learn to do such integral work while on the job. We believe someone with proven experience in SGA is a safer choice for secretary. While she did have some good ideas about producing SGA YouTube videos to keep students informed, they were not enough to make up for her lack of experience.

#### **AnneFaber**



#### LETTER'S POLICY

The Johns Hopkins News-Letter welcomes letters to the editor. Letters must be e-mailed to <code>chiefs@jhunewsletter.com</code> for inclusion in a Thursday issue. All letters received become property of The News-Letter. The News-Letter reserves the right to edit for space, grammar and clarity. Letters must include contact information and cannot be anonymous. The News-Letter reserves the right to limit the number of letters printed.

## NEWS-LETTER

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## **UPINIONS**

With the exception of editorials, the opinions expressed here are those of the contributors. They are not necessarily those of The Johns Hopkins News-Letter.

## Politics by osmosis: The grave implications of petty partisanship

draws us closer to the 2012 presidential election, reminders of partisan politics remain at the forefront of the discussion. Take the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, for example. In a recent poll conducted by ABC News and the Washington Post, just over half of surveyed individuals believed that a Supreme Court decision on the Act, which is expected sometime in June, will likely be made with political interests in mind.

All of this talk of partisanship begs the question: What impact does such partisanship have on the execution of political decisions? And is there any answer to the endless debate over which side, the left or the right, political liberalism or conservatism, is correct?

I'll leave the second question for later. But as for the first, some good news: actually, there is an answer.

Or at least, so says The Huffington Post. In a study reported last month, the researchers at the Society for Personality and Social Psychology (PSP) claim to have proven, empirically, that low-effort thinking tends to promote conservative ideologies. This study comes on the heels of a similar investigation earlier this year, which states rather bluntly what the PSP article hints at evasively: that conservatives are, well, stupid. This second investigation, conducted by the Association for Psychological Science, bears a title which says it all: "Bright Minds and Dark Attitudes: Lower Cognitive Ability Predicts Greater Prejudice Through Right-Wing Ideology and Low Intergroup Contact."

I now pose the question: given this information, have we not solved the age-old question, the incessant squabble of "my-political-ideology-is-betterthan-yours" that has held back decades of leaders trying to rise above such questions and act decisively in the interest of the American public? Shouldn't we all just vote liberal from now on, because that's what smart people

To this conclusion, I offer two responses. The first examines the nature of the conclusions reached by the cited studies, while the second considers the underlying implications of such studies in general.

First, there is the definition of conservative ideology. What is the definition used by these researchers when drawing their conclusions? Surely, an idea as nebulous as "right-wing ideology," which implies an aggregation of all positions subsumed by right-leaning politicians, requires some definition if it is to be studied objectively. What are the criteria that they provide? Mostly, as is suggested in the title, the Association for Psychological Science's standard for right-wing ideology is listed in the article's title: prejudice and low intergroup contact. Here, identify the first problem: a claim which, by nature, is selfreinforcing and therefore logically untenable.

Here's what I mean. So long as you ascribe racism and fear of the unknown to the political right, you will always reach the same conclusion, which amounts to a tautology: low-er intelligence "predicts" for more racism, hence racism is positively correlated with lower intelligence. The problem, however, is with the substitution of the word "racism" with "conservative politics." When you predicate your definition of conservative ideology on the supposition of a particular trait which does naturally stem from lower intelligence, you will always find that said ideology "predicts for" the trait in relation to which you have defined the ideology. Whether or not this identification is valid is the crux of the argument, and the discussion we should be having. Whether conservative policies tend to be harmful to the ethnically and socioeconomically marginalized, is a valid debate. Whether stupidity equals racism, which equals conservatism, on the other hand, is much more ambiguous. Not only this, but it is more superficial: none of it really gets to the root of examining conservative policies, and determining why they may or may not be harmful. Instead, it simply rests

with asserting a correlation between three decidedly abstract phenomena, and posits that on these grounds, we should denounce the underlying ideology as flawed beyond saving.

All of this analysis ever, misses the point. By parsing through various academic publications, we may be able to verify or negate the validity of a scientific claim. But even if we were able to say with certainty that right-wing politics are less intelligent than those of the left, what we still cannot do is solve for any of the problems that are endemic to the American politi-cal structure. Why is this? Look to my classification of the two likely reactions to The Huffington Post's article.

Such a study, regardless of its truth or validity, has one effect: polarization. At the point where such a claim divides people based on broad classifications, rekindles the flame of partisan infighting by denouncing one entity against another, and, in short, ensures the continuation of the same divisiveness that it seeks to eliminate, the well-intended messenger has become the lifeblood of further inability to compromise, reliance on ad hominem attacks, and decline of the quality of political discourse. The truth of the claim, then, becomes irrelevant. In light of this revelation, we are just as likely to revert to partyapologetics, rather than reasoned deliberation. We haven't found an answer, and we are, in fact, no closer to a solution to the two-party problem than we

As an antidote to the questionable claims and general obfuscation of the issue of intelligence and political allegiance, I offer the following claim, which agrees, in part, with our original premise: that low-effort thinking tends to promote ideologies. Not one way or another, not conservative or liberal; simply ideologies in general.

The problem is this: the current state of the two-party system in America provides a convenient proxy. A proxy by which the majority of individuals can bypass such intellectually strenuous pastimes as searching for facts and developing perspective in favor of a cut-and-dry de cision. Directly resulting from this is the fact that modern political discourse in America, for all of its diverse and pertinent arenas of debate, circumvents all of the important issues. It all devolves to one simple, and essentially meaningless question: "Are you a liberal or a conserva-

The question is meaningless for the same reason the articles above are flawed: because without a mechanism to objectively determine what ideas are subsumed by the political left or right, partisan lines do nothing to encourage critical thinking and, what's worse, actually discourage it by allowing voters two convenient titles, either of which they can wear without ever having to investigate what those titles mean. Politics by proxy does nothing for American progress. As I write this, I am tempted to call it by another name: politics

Osmosis, as defined by the Merriam-Webster Dictionary is, "A process of absorption or diffusion suggestive of the flow of osmotic action; especially: a usually effortless, often unconscious assimilation." The "effortless, often unconscious assimilation" is what is so damaging to political discourse. Politics by osmosis, which is facilitated by a partisan mentality, stunts progress because it permits political participation that is conscious only of two choices, rather than the thousands that surround the milieu of issues which should be informing the decision-making process of today's voters. By discouraging investigation, preventing critical analysis, and allowing "unconscious politics," partisan divi-siveness accomplishes little more than one, incredibly ironic end: a hospitable environment for such crude and frighteningly underdeveloped conclusions as the belief that one political perspective, liberal or conservative, is, in all regards and situations, for stupid people only.

John Corbett is a freshman Economics and International Studies double major from Portsmouth, R.I.

#### Illegal immigration is not the problem

his week, the Christian Science Monitor reported that illegal immigration in the United States has hit a net zero for the first time in 50 years. The population of undocumented immigrants in the U.S. has fallen from 12 million to around 11 million and new immigrants haven't been entering the U.S. at a high enough number to replace those who left.

In spite of these facts, the issue of illegal immigration has played a dominant role in the Republican primaries thus far and is poised to become a pivotal issue as both Obama and Romney vie for the all-important Latino vote in the general election.

During this primary season, Romney has praised Arizona's anti-immigration law as a model for the nation, opposed amnesty for illegal immigrants and vowed that he would veto the DREAM Act, which would grant aid to college students whose parents brought them to this country illegally. A Fox News poll conducted last month found that Latinos weren't too fond of these policies Latinos favor Obama over Romney by 70 percent to 14 percent.

To this end, Romney would do well to abandon his rhetoric against illegal immigration, not only because continuing to attack the Latino community is bad politics but also because undocumented workers are not the problem he and his compatriots have made them out to be. The deep animosity toward undocumented workers that Romney has been drawing on in the Republican Party stems from two points, both of which have little basis in truth: undocumented workers feed off our tax dollars and are a burden on the economy.

According to U.S. Government Info, though, "The belief that illegal immigrants ... in the United States pay little or no taxes is far from correct." The Immigration Policy Center estimates that "households headed by illegal immigrants paid a combined \$11.2 billion in state and local taxes during 2010."

Why is this? In the U.S., there are things called sales taxes, property taxes and income taxes. And, contrary to popular belief, immigrants pay them. When they enter a store to buy food, for instance, they don't run out and refuse to pay the sales tax on their purchase. When it comes time to pay their property taxes, similarly, they don't tell their landlord or their local government they are not going to pay.

According to Randy Capps, a senior research fellow at the Urban Institute, "Undocumented immigrants pay the same real estate taxes-whether they own homes or taxes are passed through to rents—and the same sales and other consumption taxes as everyone else. The majority of state and local costs of schooling and other services are funded by these taxes." The Institute on Taxation and Economic Policy, a nonpartisan think tank, has corroborated this point by declaring that, "Property taxes are hard to avoid, and unauthorized immigrants are assumed to pay the same property taxes as others

with the same income level." But what about income taxes. which many claim undocumented workers just cannfot pay? Well, the Social Security Administration estimates that about 75 percent of undocumented workers pay income taxes that pump money into our welfare programs like Social Security and Medicare. Federal and state law, though, prohibit undocumented workers from even benefitting from these essential programs. They are, in effect, handing us \$8 billion a year in Social Security and Medicare - and we are complaining!

Some on the political right concede that undocumented workers do pay some taxes, but not anywhere near enough. The answer for this is that most undocumented workers are paid below minimum wage and thus have less disposable income. This leads them to purchase fewer goods. The sales tax collected is then obviously lower than that collected on an average citizen's purchases. In addition, 36 states in America have a progressive income tax. Poor people, quite simply, pay less, and rich people pay more. This explains why undocumented workers who pay income taxes (75 percent, as I already mentioned) pay less than someone like you or I.

And finally, there are those who say they are all for immigration, but just want it done the way their ancestors did it: "the legal way." But 100 years ago, when our great grandparents and grandparents flooded the gates of Ellis Island to escape a ravished and war-torn Europe, they faced an America wholly discordant with the one we know today. America was a place that welcomed immigrants into New York Harbor beneath the open arms of a Statue of Liberty. It was a place where one could essentially step off a boat, undergo medical tests and

enter the land of opportunity in a matter of hours.

Today, though, America is a place of barbed wire fences, National Guardsmen, infrared cameras, border patrol agents, machine guns and gun-toting vigilantes. Today, naturalization is not what our ancestors encountered on Ellis Island. There are fees and waiting lines and documents and more documents and lawyers and bureaucratic red tape. Those who are lucky enough to even be selected wait years to have their papers stamped.

But I have yet to mention what ought to be the true issue of this debate. Romney, who chooses to attack undocumented workers, an utterly destitute portion of the American population, is turning his back on the true problem in America. The problem isn't the man in Arizona working three jobs a day in the grime and sweat of America's working poor. It's not the teenage immigrant trying to save up enough money to feed his parents and siblings. It's not the father trying to save his Mexico, created by America's insatiable addiction. And it surely is not the family trying to taste the fruits of the American Dream - trying to walk the streets paved in gold and the stairs built from marble.

The true tax problem in America does not stem from undocumented workers, who pay upwards of \$11.2 billion every year to a country which abhors them. It stems, rather, from America's largest corporations and billionaires who pay this country nothing in taxes. Exxon Mobil, which made 19 billion dollars in profits in 2009, paid zero and even received a \$156 million rebate from the IRS. Last year, Citigroup made more than \$4 billion in profits but paid no federal income taxes. In 2008, Goldman Sachs paid 1.1 percent of its income in taxes, even though it earned a profit of \$2.3 billion and received \$800 billion from the Federal Reserve and U.S. Treasury Department.

Romney must stop drawing a divide across this nation by attacking undocumented workers. Together, we can solve the real problems in America. Illegal immigration, though, is simply not one of them.

Nikko Price is a freshman Political Science major from Brookeville, N.Y. He is the Opinions Editor for The News-Letter.

#### Open letter concerning new JHU- Mobile application

The following is an open letter to the Hopkins student body concerning an issue in the upcoming SGA Executive Election.

Dear Hopkins Student Body, My name is Steven Presser. am a junior and the Technical Lead on the JHU-Mobile application, which will soon be officially announced. On April 10, the SGA campaign of Wyatt Larkin, Joanna Gawlik, Michael St. Germain and Debra Schwitzer released a campaign video in which they claimed that they "created an iPhone app." They also claimed on their website that they "secured administration support for a Hopkins iPhone App." While the video has since been edited, I'm concerned that the claims of these candidates trivialize the contributions of the different groups that worked to-gether to develop this application.

While the candidates had some role in pitching this application, as did many members of the SGA, the actual creation and development of this app has been a joint effort of the SGA's Hopkins App Ad hoc committee, IT@Johns Hopkins, and Student Technology Services, with input and oversight from Vice-Provost Steinberg and Presi-dent Daniels and funding from an anonymous donor. At the bottom of this letter, you will find the complete list of people who have contributed. It is my sincere hope that their efforts do not get lost among these campaign claims.

Of all those who did work on the app, there is one SGA member whose contribu-tions should be spotlighted: Kirk Sabnani. Kirk spearheaded the organiza-

tion and gath-ering of institutional support for JHUMobile. I hope that it is recognized as the capstone of his achievements as a member of the SGA. Without Kirk's contributions, JHU-Mobile would not exist and its quality is

attention. I hope that (once it

Thank You, Steven Presser

I would like to thank the following people for the work they have put into JHUMobile: the anonymous donor who made this project possible; President Daniels and Vice-Provost Steinberg for their support and guidance; our advisory board: Fred Bosworth, Helen Burdman, David Croft, Lauren Custer, Phil Gianuzzi, Steve Hellen, Abbey Lattes, Jason Lewis, Kristie Oppitz, Kate Pipkin, Elena Thompson, Robert Turning, Michael Vaughn and Erin Yun; the SGA Ad hoc committee: Kirk Sabnani, Luke Sand, Nick Trenton, Moses Song, Maaiz Khan, Joshua Goodstein, Nash Jenkins and Mahzi Malcolm; the professional staff at IT@Johns Hopkins: Steve Hellen, Deborah Savage, Matt Dragon, Cao-Ly Tran, and Ali Sovlu: my team at Student Technology Services: Lia Cefalu, Sierra Costanza, Shijit Dasgupta, Bennett Ellis, Jed Estep, Amanda Garcia, Alexandra Gutten-tag, Jamie Hittman, Matthew Lehmann, Alannah Lejeune, Chang Liu, Kyle Mercer, Jes-sica Novi-ello, Michelle Plonch, Azwad Sabik, Garvi Sheth and Daniel Swann; and finally, the whole team at BlackBoard.

a testament to his hard work

Thank you for your time and launches) you enjoy JHU-Mobile!

## Coming soon.



Available April 30th for iPhone. Android and BlackBerry JHUmobile.

## SUSTALLABILITY NIGHT O Nolan's

Monday, April 16th from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Paint your own Blue Jay Planter, plant flowers, pick up Green Dorm Room Pledge, and play trivia with Carrie Bennett (the "Shush Lady") for prizes!!!

The Blue Jay Mascot will be there, so don't miss out!!



Brought to you by the Office of Student Life and the Department of Housing and Dining. For more information, contact Julia Bradshaw at jbradsh8@jhu.edu.





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APRIL 12, 2012





JAMES SHRING SEASON ELEMENT UP!!







## YOUR WEEKEND APR 12-15

#### Esteemed animator to lecture at Hop on Monday

By NATHAN MCDONALD

Saturday Night Live illustrator I.I. Sedelmaier will be screening his work in a lecture titled "J.J. Sedelmaier Productions: Hiding in Plain Sight" at 5:30 p.m. on Monday, April 16 in Room 101 of the Mat-

Sedelmaier is famous not only for his work on "The Ambiguously Gay Duo" on SNL, but also for work on Cartoon Network's Adult Swim, and The Colbert Report.

From Beavis and Butthead to The Bernstein Bears, Sedelmaier's work appeals to all types and demonstrates a mastery of illustration, design, and production

Beyond the entertainment industry, Sedelmaier has designed over 500 TV commercials and marketing and advertisement artwork for corporations such as Nickelodeon, Converse and The Chicago Tribune.

He also directs his own creative development and production studio, J.J. Sedelmaier Productions Inc. (JJSP), along with his wife This studio lends its services to coporate branding for various companies. They have worked in all aspects of business campaigning: ΓV, print, transit, theatrical and outdoor.

Commercial have also been a staple of IJSP, and this studio was built upon film production and film commercials.

JJSP has won multiple awards for their animations, especially for TV broadcast and design. They have worked on title sequences, network IDs, promos, and interstitials.

In addition to all this, Sedelmaier is a weekly contributor to Print Magazine's blog, "Imprint."

This lecture is co-spon-sored by Homewood Art Workshops and Home-wood Arts Programs.

This event is free and open to the public.



COURTESY OF ANIMATORSUNITE.COM Illustrator J.J. Sedelmaier has had extensive experience with animation.

#### The mystery of the "Charles" in "Charles Village"

recently had some tamily members visit me and in a shamefully uncreative act of desperation to entertain, I did what most Baltimoreans do when they have guests in town tor an atternoon.

I took them to the Inner Harbor.

On the drive down, I took on my best Baltimore tour guide persona and tried to impress.

I said things like, "If you look to your left here, we have the famed University Market, commonly referred to as Uni-Mini a drunken mecca that Hopkins students flock to every weekend night past 2 a.m. for food that no one would eat unless, well, unless they were drunk and it was the only place

open a.m."

I had a lot of

informational things like this to tell them until we just got past Chipotle.

My tour then turned into me saying things like, "And here on the right is a really cool, big church, and that there is a huge white statue with a guy at the top holding something in his palm, though I can't quite tell what it is. And, oh yeah, in that brick building there, um, maybe that marble one down the block, is where there is a library that looks like the one from Beauty and the Beast.'

I continued with my stream of conscious tour at the Inner Harbor, where I said, "Yep, that's an old wooden ship you see in the water there, and to the right of it are some paddle boats that resemble something out of Dragon Tales."

Needless to say, I didn't do much justice to Baltimore and its esteemed harbor.

After about an hour of aimless strolling around harbor people eat at the chain restaurants and trying to imagine what great things must be inside the aquarium, I told my cousin to head north on Charles Street to get back to Charles Village.

"Who's Charles, why does he have his own village?" she asked.

This time, I actually felt a little embarrassed not to know the answer.

Despite having lived in Charles Village for nearly three years now and having crossed the street every day, fifteen times a day, I had no idea.

For the sake of my own Baltimore knowledge, or perhaps more correctly, my own Baltimore ignorance, imme-

Nathan McDonald began to try and B'more Than Pre-med unravel the mystery of the man (or woman) behind this street and vil-

diately

Naturally, I did what most people would do.

I just googled "Charles." I quickly learned that this would be no easy task.

My first search of "Charles" resulted 1.16 billion hits, the first of which was "Charles Schwab."

I really hate it when Google actually makes me

In an effort to pursue the purest form of the metaphysics of knowledge, I finally consulted Wikipe-

Now, I know you can read about Charles Village on Wikipedia too, but let me spare you the troublesome time of sifting through such extensive

The area was first developed in 1869 and named Peabody Heights." In the



No one seems to know where Charles Village actually got its name from.

early 20th century, it was a rural, streetcar suburb, with some of the first tract housing in America.

It wasn't until 1967 that the area, stretching from Charles Street and University to Charles and 22nd, and sandwiched between the Homewood campus and Greenmount (or may-be Guilford street — Wikipedia is undecided about this), became known as Charles Village.

It was renamed by Baltimore resident Grace Darin, a journalist and activist of her time, who is famous for nothing in particular except naming Charles Vil-

In a stroke of brilliant insight, she named the neighborhood after the street that ran through it.

But this still begs the question of who Charles actually is.

To find out, I had to go to a place where few 21st century citizens dare to travel: Beyond Wikipedia.

According to char-lesstreet.net, (check this site out for a great list of Charles Village sights) the street was founded in 1729 as Forrest Street.

By 1761, word of mouth

and mass appeal had re-christened the street as Charles Street. Who? Why? How?

Nobody seems to know. But don't worry, I won't

leave you hanging there. There are, in fact, many Charles associated with

First, there is the King of England, Charles I, who granted the first charter for the colony of Md. in 1632.

Baltimore.

Then there is Charles Calvert, the 5th Baron Baltimore, 3rd Proprietor and 17th Proprietary Governor of Md., who controlled the colony beginning in 1721. He, however, only trav-

elled to Md. once in 1732 and left the colony in the hands of his dear cousin Charles Calvert, who served as governor from 1721 to 1727.

Now, which one of these three Charles is the street, village, theatre, pub, and five hundred plus businesses in Charm City loyally named after?

I'll let you decide.

Just try and make it a more exciting story than the real one for your outof-town guests.

## Calendar Baltimore **Events**

#### Thurs. April 12



Phi Mu's Pastathon 5 p.m. Levering Hall

The sisters of Phi Mu are hosting an all-you-can eat pasta, salad and dessert buffet. Tickets are \$5, and all proceeds go to the Children's Miracle Network.

Undergraduate Research Symposium 5:30 — 9:30 p.m. Hodson 305, 311, 110

The Honor Society Neuroscience invites all under-

graduates to present their independent research. Dr. Elizabeth Gould, a professor of psy-chology at Princ-eton, will be the keynote speaker at 7:30. There will be a free dinner included as well as a recognition ceremony.

We Came as Romans 6 p.m. Rams Head Live

This band, known for their pop-infused metal including orchestral elements, hopes that their lyrics will spread a positive message and "plant a seed" in line with the title of their newest album.

> David Sedaris 7:30 p.m. Myerhoff Hall

David Sedaris, a Grammy Awardnominated comedian, radio contributor and author of essays and short stories, will be appearing at the Jo-Myerhoff seph Symphony Tickets are \$43.

#### Fri, April 13

Registration for Women's Pre-Health Conference All Day Johns Hopkins

Today is the last day the 2012 conference on women's pre-health, which April 28 from 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. Register www.tinyurl. com/wphlsconference2012.



Cultural Block Party 4 — 7 p.m. Multicultural

Student Center

Enjoy student cultural organizations, food vendors, arts and crafts vendors, community service organizations and Hall. our neighbors in Charles Village in

the annual Cultural Block Party.

> Relay For Life 7 p.m. — 7 a.m. Upper Quad

This is an overnight event to raise money for the fight you can register for against cancer. Camp out on the Upper Quad with friends and enjoy will take place on food and laughter all night long.



Ladybirds Spring Concert 7 — 8:30 p.m. Shriver Hall

spring show along with guest performances from the S.L.A.M., Sirens, Eclectics and JHU Ballet. In addition, you'll have a chance to win prizes from fun Laydbirds trivia.

#### The Drowsy Chaperone 8 p.m. Swirnow Theatre

This is your last weekend to catch the Barnstormers' performance The Drowsy Chaperone. There will be addition performances on Saturday at 8 p.m. and Sunday at 3 p.m. Tickets are \$5 for students.

> 50/50 8 p.m. Remsen 1

HOP Friday Night Films presents 50/50, a 2011 comedy-drama film starring Joseph Gordon-Levitt a 27-year-old radio journalist who must struggle with the knowledge Come see the Johns that he has a 50/50 Hopkins Ladybirds chance of surviving perform in their a rare cancer in his spine.



#### Sat. April 14

Just Dance 7 — 9 p.m. Shriver Hall

Jaywalk, the Hopkins contemporary jazz and lyrical styles dance group, and JOSH Fusion Dance Group, the Hopkins Indian dance group, come together to present a spring showcase in Shriver Hall.

#### Sun. April 15



The Pretty Reckless 8 p.m. Ottobar

Actress Taylor Momsen, known for her work on "Gossip Girl" fronts this rock band on their stop in Baltimore as part of their national tour.

## ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

### Rock Paper B'more joins Wake up with Barnstormer's Drowsy Chaperone writing with music

By FLORENCE LAU

Last Thursday, Writers in Baltimore Schools, an organization seeking to provide an opportunity for low-income students K-12 to develop their literary skills through creative writing workshops, put on their Rock Paper B'more show at the Ottobar with a fantastic line-up: Wing Dam, Raffi Joe, DJ Fiar Medico, Chester Endersby Gwazda and Future Islands.

Sponsored by WJHU Radio and The Ottobar, this music fest sought to benefit WBS's literary magazine, Baltimore by Hand, which celebrates the literary work of students they tutor in Baltimore by putting out three different publications (an annual literary magazine, an online literary magazine and an annual book) of said work. Rock Paper B'more raised funds for their premiere book, which will feature stories about growing up in Baltimore.

From the first moments at the venue, there was a

general feeling of eager anticipation. People milled around the bar area, chatting with friends and catching up. Others stood by the stage area, hoping to get a good spot to enjoy the bands that were performing.

Although Wing Dam the solo project of Hopkins alum Austin Tally - and Chester Endersby Gwazda kicked off the show to a decent-sized crowd right on time, the group that everyone was looking forward to was Future Islands. Headed by Samuel T. Herring, the synthpop band formed in 2006 had people swarming the area right below the stage almost 20 minutes before the show started.

The chaos only increased as Future Islands took to the stage. By the third song, a legitimate mosh pit had formed, with the entire crowd being shoved back and forth in time with the music. Being trapped in that middle of that crowd felt a lot like a ride at Disneyland . . . if

SEE BBH, PAGE B4



ANGIE PINILLA/PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR Future Islands brought many of their fans to the benefit concert.

By ELLEN BRAIT

The JHU Barnstormers put on The Drowsy Chaperone this past Saturday night, Apr. 7, with great

The performance ran very smoothly, and it was clear that all of the efforts of the director, Jayme Kilburn (the artistic director of the Strand Theater), the music director, Rodney Long of Columbus State University, the stage manager, freshman Eve Rosekind and the producer, sophomore Julia Flood, were put to good use.

The play presented an interesting idea of attempting to escape reality into an alternate universe. Yet the play itself did not allow its audience to escape into the 1920s because of the interruptions of its narrator.

The lady in the chair, played by freshman Kathleen Lewis, acted as the audience's narrative guide throughout as she played the soundtrack to the popular 1920s musical, The Drowsy Chaperone, and occasionally jumped in to explain the background on the cast.

This gave her the opportunity to make or break the play. If per-formed badly, her role could have been seen as a constant and irritating interruption, but because of her brilliant acting, her interjections simply added another layer of comedy to the show.

She portrayed the character's neurotic nature while still remaining relatable and threw in bursts of humor throughout.

The play followed the marriage of Janet van de Graaff, played by Peabody junior Justine Icy Moral, and junior Robert Martin, played by Peabody sophomore Zachary Tallman.

The two actors from Peabody Institute did their parts justice



COURTESY OF GEORGINA EDIONSERI

Barnstormers put up their spring musical, Drowsy Chaperone, last weekend, which will run until Sunday.

and showcased both their amazing voices and stellar acting skills. It is clear from their performances that the two will go far in this business

The guests at their wedding were quirky and eclectic, ranging from a drunken chaperone to two gangster brothers.

The gangster brothers, John and Peter Tall, were portrayed by two actresses instead, sophomore Victoria Schroeter and sophomore Beth Flaherty.

The added humor of the absurdity of this decision on top of the two actresses' already humorous portrayals made for two very funny charac-

Although the two gangster brothers were humorous, there is no denying that when the show looked for comedic relief, it turned to sophomore Ian Han, who played the European ladies' man, Aldolpho.

It was not entirely clear

what part of Europe Aldolpho was from but it's safe to say the blatant mockery of the European stereotype was hysterical to the audi-

The only mishap took place near the beginning of the play. Han originally ordained an over-the-top stick-on mustache, which was promptly removed after his first scene because of its inability to

stay put. This would have been more acceptable if it had not reappeared on another character he sleeps with later on in the play as a humorous joke. Since he was no longer wearing the mustache during his

Even with this slight mishap, Han more than

scenes, the joke no longer

made up for it. During one number, which explored Asian stereotypes, Han plays an emperor while sing-

ing about how Caucasians

fascinate Asians and vice

Freshamn Lajari Anne, who played The Drowsy Chaperone, portrayed the Caucasian in this scene and was undeniably hilari-

During the rest of the play, in her role as the chaperone, Lajari show-cased her outstanding voice while still bringing laughs through her portrayal of a woman who loves alcohol just a little too much.

Other guests at the wedding included Feldzieg, played by Fresh man Dave Berenato, and Kitty, played by freshman Rachel Kwolek, a big-time musical producer and his companion; a woman who is trying to break into show business and is failing miserably because of her unintelligent nature.

The two did their parts justice and worked well together, portraying their

SEE DROWSY, PAGE B5

#### Thought the '90s were over? Think again.

f I'm 20 and want to make out with a 17-year old, am I considered a pedo-

phile? Let me defend myself: I was never boy crazy as a teenager, and I usually go for older guys.

For those of you who are living under a rock lately (or sleeping with a chemistry book on D-level), 90s-

bands are making a comeback like never caus-

#### **Devin Alessio Guest Columnist**

ing pre-teens everywhere (and yours truly) to swoon like my sister did over Lance Bass 10 years ago (pre-spaceflight plans and homosexuality, of course).

Your education on preteen stars begins by hopping the pond, where One Direction has been taking the U.K. by storm since 2010.

The band's members —

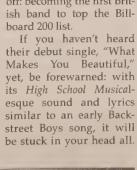
Niall, Zayn, Liam, Harry and Louis, no last names needed - were individually competing on England's fifth season of the XFactor until guest judge Nicole Scherzinger (of Pussycat Dolls and Dancing with the Stars fame) suggested they compete as a team.

The members of One Direction range between the ages of 17 and 20, and

managed feat that not even the Beatles pulled

off: becoming the first Brit-

If you haven't heard their debut single, "What Makes You Beautiful," yet, be forewarned: with its High School Musicalesque sound and lyrics similar to an early Backstreet Boys song, it will be stuck in your head all.





COURTESY OF WWW.YOUNGMALECELEBS.COM Boy band The Wanted made it big with their single "Glad You Came."



COURTESY OF WWW.THEMAGAZINE.CA One Direction hails from the UK but have made the move to the U.S.

day. long.

It's an experience everyone should have, at least

For those of you who prefer to listen to male musical acts that have shaved at least once in their lifetime (no offense, One Direction), then I'd recommend taking a gander at The Wanted.

They transcend the typical definition of a "boy band" — the video for their single "Glad You Came" shows its members — a college-age set that pulls off polo shirts and blazers like only European men can - on spring break in Ibiza, and their lyrics mention partying and hooking up with girls (oh my!).

The band's first single

"All Time Low," which was recorded after a mass casting call in England in 2009, debuted at number one on the UK Singles

Though the band's been famous in Britain for some time, they owe part of their growing popularity in the U.S. to the Warblers on Glee: after "Glad You Came" was featured on the show, iTunes sales skyrocketed.

Judge me all you want, Hopkids: I'm in love with British boy bands, and I don't care who knows it.

When I see you bopping your head in your library cubicle to the sweet sound of these autotuneperfected pop tunes, I'll be sure to give you a wink of approval.

This Single of the Week, "Monoliths," comes to you from dream-pop band Lotus Plaza.

This track is off Lotus Plaza's newest album Spooky Action At A Distance by Kranky Records,

which was released last week.

Thanks to this aland bum successful sngs like 'Monoliths," Lotus Plaza is sure to be a success in the future.

Lotus Plaza is a oneman project by the very talented musician Lockett

Pundt is an alum of Georgia-based indie band Deerhunter. His current ambient pop sound is very characteristic of Pundt, but subtly softer from Deerhunter's usual noise rock.

"Monoliths" gives a very light feeling to the listener, and one can be

easily drawn in with the soothing, electrified guitar. The track is perfect for a summer day.

Lotus Plaza is currently on tour and making their way through the US and Canada, supported by a

Hot Singles on

Lotus Plaza's

"Monoliths"

the Internet:

loyal fan base and hoards of new fans who are being drawn in by the new album Spooky Action At A Distance.

So evervone

download Lotus Plazaz's new album Spooky Action At A Distance.

If you think you need some persuading, just listen to a few of the tracks. I suggest "Monoliths" or "Jet Out of the Tundra" as some of the best on the al-

That will be all you'll need to change your mind. Happy listening!

- Rachel Schnalzer



COURTESY OF WWW.LAST.FM Lotus Plaza's newest album has generated terrific amounts of buzz.

#### **ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT**

### Is Family Guy truly the show of our generation? BBH and WJHU raises

o I picked up Hulu Plus a few weeks ago, and the one thing that's stood out is being able to watch some of my favorite shows in their entirety.

I can chart Troy's evolution through the first three seasons of Community or see how the jokes evolved on Arrested Development.

But one of the most interesting finds I've come across in these couchbound travels is that Family Guy isn't as good as I thought it was.

Seth McFarlane is good, his work is still good, especially the spin-offs he's helmed (American Dad and The Cleveland Show). But something about Family Guy just falls flat where it never did before.

In a sense, Family Guy has already won TV. They got cancelled, then uncancelled, then Emmy nominated and basically, all around they came back to

It has a dedicated fanbase, a loyal viewership and overall is in very little danger of being cancelled anytime soon

Subsequently, Fox execs have to back off. You can't mess with Family Guy because it works. We know that. American Dad doesn't get that special

It's more confined to television conventional formulas, and as much as we rail against execs meddling in our shows, there's a certain amount of quality that comes with

Once Family Guy hit it big, especially with their cutaway gags, we saw those gags take the spotlight. What was once a great side dish has become the main course and the show suffers for it.

The great episodes of Family Guy, even the great jokes we remember, all seem outside of what we watch every Sunday.

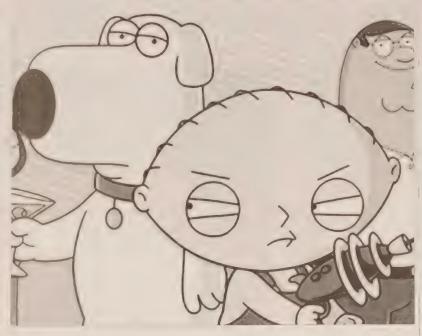
American Dad doesn't play that way and it's a Mc-Farlane show.

Every episode has a clear and engaging story built on something concrete in the characters. Family Guy tends to run around on Peter's immaturity or the family's revulsion of Meg. Or, alternatively, Stewie and Brian doing something

together. American Dad gives you these characters, throws them pinballing into one another for some classic sitcom action, but also tends to satirize things as

Not only is the whole show one giant play against the typical Republican household, it actually portrays them both politically neutral (Family Guy gets more political than American Dad, strangely) and politically charged.

When Stan and Francine sabotage a rival cou-



COURTESY OF WWW.ADULTSWIM.COM

Family Guy has shut up TV execs and is likely here to stay, but may have gotten lazy with its comedy. evance to the story. And

ple's birth control, Francine casually asks: wouldn't they just abort

Stan turns deadpan to the camera and says: "Because they're awesome." It's a joke. We laugh.

But it serves more purposes than that. It fills plot holes, it satirizes political policy and at the same time it pokes fun at traditional gender roles. (For example

Stan, the man, telling Francine what another

is going to do with her

This one, throwaway joke informs and entertains us just like a cutaway gag does, but its subtlety actually empowers the storyline whereas Family Guy's jokes usually happen outside of the

We as a generation consume more entertainment than any generation before, which means that self-referential comedy is a big hit.

It's why we love Community and 30 Rock. We get television, we watch tons of it, so that style of comedy sticks with us.

But Family Guy exists in this weird bubble between two spaces.

The cutaway gags are great. Robot Chicken is a show built on this; they are literally dozens of cutaway gags making fun of pop culture for an entire 15-minute show. And that's

Community, on the othhand, has a story. Troy and Abed build a blanket fort and it informs us on their characters. Ieff and Annie subvert very typical will-they-won't-they tropes and it contextualizes those plots.

Family Guy doesn't really commit to either side of the spectrum.

Cutaway gags are funny, but they have no rel-

the story is wonderfully absurd, but it's absurd for no reason, rather than driving these characters or informing us about sto-If, say, one were to be

combined with another, using cutaway gags as something that seriously enhances the experience, well, maybe there you have something.

**Buddy Sola** 

Low Culture

But as it stands, the formula that Family Guy has built for itself just isn't

sustainable. Not to mention that, despite his own self-indul-

gence, I'm not very sold on McFarlane. He's a good writer, clearly he understands how to build stories and

jokes, but as a producer, I'm less than impressed. Take, for instance, The Venture Brothers, a tiny animated show that's best known as the brainchild of Doc Hammer and Jackson

Like a lot of animated shows, Publick and Hammer voice plenty of the But, unlike characters. Family Guy, very rarely do those characters bounce off the voice actor.

If Publick voices one-half of a conversation, the other half will almost always be Hammer (or any other of their talented vocal cast).

Family Guy does the opposite. McFarlane gets paired with McFarlane for episodes at a time. Literally, the 150th episode, "Brian and Stewie," had one voice actor: McFarlane.

And that episode, while ambitious in that it stayed away from absurdist plots and cutaways, fell flat because there isn't a dynamic between Seth and himself. At the end of it, I don't feel like Family Guy is necessarily bad. It's not even overhyped.

It's just not what we thought it was.

Jokes on wheels, ladies and gentlemen, isn't Emmy material. It's barely TV Guide material. So, why do we tout Famiy Guy as the show of our genera-

## thousands of dollars

that ride included being elbowed, stepped on and surrounded on all sides by screaming, sweaty people,

There was even some crowd surfing at one point, with guys being carried by the crowd and dumped on the raised stage before stage diving back into the crowd. Overall, people expressed their satisfaction by screaming and cheering throughout the entire performance. Those who managed to get to the front of the stage stretched out their arms to try and touch Herring as he performed.

Herring was extremely expressive, and, although it was difficult to hear the actual lyrics, he was singing, he definitely knew how to work a crowd. He punctuated his song with lots of body movements, lunging from one side of the stage to another or just crouching at the edge of the stage (next to adoring fans) and then jumping up His movements practically took the place of the unintelligible song lyrics, as it was clear that whatever he was singing about, he believed in what he was saying.

As soon as Future Islands played their last song, the crowd broke up, with most people wandering away to the bar or to sit at the edge of the room and chat. Some people even left, as it was clear that many of the people were there just to see Future Islands per-

It became a much more relaxed atmosphere as opposed to the crazy screaming and pushing that had been prevalent as they performed. If the crowd and fans were any indication, it was clear that Future Islands has a very bright future in the Baltimore music

Rock Paper B'More ended with local band Raffi Joe and a dance party spun by DJ Fiar Medico. Every musician donated their time to raise funds for a good cause. With the help of big names like Future Island and the support of The Ottobar and WJHU, nearly \$3000 was raised to print Baltimore By Hand's literary magazine and book of local kids' works.



ANGIE PINILLA/PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR Both Hopkins and Baltimore communities came out to support the event.

#### Critically acclaimed trio puts on performance

By KRISTIAN JOHNSON

Not that far away from our insulated campus lays a sometimes forgotten treasure trove of music. This, of course, is none other than the Peabody Institute. It is easily accessible — all it takes is a short trip on the JHMI shuttle - and it is constantly abuzz with a variety of contemporary and classical performances. Most importantly, it is cheap for those living on a budget; a student ID comes with student discounts.

The Peabody Trio were part of the Adalman Chamber Series, in which Peabody looks to feature its faculty, in this case by its longtime ensemblein-residence. The focus of the series, because it does involve the faculty, extends beyond the Baltimore community but also the students. This was evidenced looking into the crowd. There was not the usual padding of snow and wrinkles but rather several rows of fresh faces. students perhaps. The Peabody Trio has garnered quite the international success after its breakthrough Naumburg with the Chamber Music Award in 1989. It became a fixture at Peabody, as well as a regularly touring group in various concert circuits in Europe and Israel. They are well regarded for their advocation of the contemporary music scene, as well as their interpretations of the classics of chamber reper-

on show throughout their

performances of Brahms'

"Sonata 1 in G major, Op. 78" for violin and piano, "Sonata 1 in E minor, Op. 38" for cello and piano and, finally, his "Piano Trio in B major, Op. 8.'

The performance be-

gan with the "Concerto" for piano and violin. The violinist, Violaine Mançon, has a stunningly powerful and clear tone that immediately captivated the audience. Seth Knopp on piano entertained not only the ear, but also the eye with his expressive face and body movement that was reminiscent of a seated dancer. The first movement was bright and springy, apt for the increasingly warm, and sunny weather outside. Like the spring, it teetered between the stately and tempestuous, when the piano bled into the violin and then reversed roles as they descended and ascended together. This motif sounded like a consistent onslaught of rain. The second movement, the "Adagio," was poignantly lush at times and incorporated many of the themes and motifs of the prior movement. The final movement was lighter than the other two, as it lightly summarized all that had happened before.

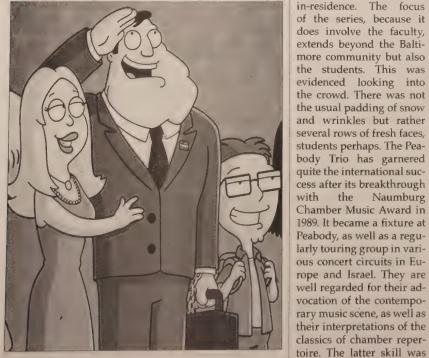
Then entered the cello. Its deep sonorous voice filled the room, jerking any nodding heads backward to attention. Knopp continued on piano, still struggling to stay on the piano bench, while Natascha Brofsky on cello replaced Mançon. The first movement of the concerto begins with the cello in the spotlight with anchoring chords in the background, attention that is gradually handed over to the piano and then returned to the Brofsky. Similar to the violin concerto, the melody had a broad and light feel to it. At points, this transformed in increasing intensity realized through the cello, but this subsided back into the initial bright theme. The final movement of the concerto was equally fun, though a bit more serious, as it played around between the piano and cello with various fugal

Playing in a trio requires coordination and understanding with the other players in the group. With string players, even the bows are perfectly coordinated, so that an aesthetically pleasing synchronization occurs. "The Piano Trio in B major" is, like the preceding concertos, cheerful and triumphant. What proves even more enjoyable than the music is watching the communication between all three players. Each takes his/her cue from the other is subtle and sometimes dramatic glances and body movements. The "Scherzo" movement was the most exciting within the trio. The violin and would play in concert, and then, suddenly, the piano would interject with peals of ivory laden laughter. The cello and violin would then disassociate, Mançon and Brofsky appreciatively watching the other during their respective solos.

Hopefully, the Peabody Trio will continue to stay on as ensemble-in-residence because, based on this performance, they certainly have much to offer, not only for the music students sitting in the rows further back but the wider Baltimore music community.



COURTESY OF WWW.PEABODYJHU.EDU Musicians Brofsky, Melançon and Knopp make up the Peabody Trio.



COURTESY OF WWW.HULU.COM

American Dad, another MacFarlane show, keeps its humor closer to plot.

#### **ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT**

## First annual First Friday Art Market showcases Hopkins art community

Sophomore Alli Greco delves into the very first Art Market

is a magical season. As temperatures rise and students eagerly escape from indoors, the brilliant sunshine, fresh, green grass and exploding magnolia trees bring out the weathered beauty of the campus's red-brick buildings. What could be a more perfect backdrop to a brand new artists market on campus?

On Friday, April 6, 2012, the First Friday Artists Market was held from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. for the first time on the Levering Hall patio. Ac-

Alli Greco

**Guest Columnist** 

cording to an article published on April 5, 2012 by the IHU

sophomore Alex Dash, an International Studies major and budding artist, "wanted to create a venue where students can show off their artistic talents to the rest of the university community." For a small registration fee, student artists of all types can not only sell their work, but also submit one piece into a university-wide competition for a chance to receive a cash prize.

Take junior Chloe Pelletier, for instance. This art history and museums and society minor jumped at the amazing opportunity to showcase her artwork, especially after having done so all throughout high school. She clearly has raw talent, which she has further refined by taking painting classes at Hopkins. Her hand-painted stemware, bookmarks and jewelry boxes are painted with degrees of professionalism, precision and style that only come with experience.

She produces all of her artwork in her apartment and utilizes a very unique system to produce it. For the painted stemware, she ex-

plains, "I paint it with a special enamel and preheat the oven so [the glasses] don't shatter." Such a delicate and potentially dangerous system calls for the utmost attention and care. Luckily, Pelletier says with a chuckle, 'No explosions yet!"

For an artists market being held for the very first time, Pelletier liked that there was "no pressure to sell a lot," which made for a stress-free environment. She also commended the group's Facebook page and the Student Government

Association for posting the event

not think of ways to improve the event.

It is odd that Pelletier could not think of any recommendations. such a beautiful morning, only a handful of students stopped by over the course of 30 minutes. Even after passing by the patio just an hour later at 11:30 a.m., attendance was not huge. Maybe the event should have started later in the day when students were less likely to be in class. More people would certainly have come to the market, and the artists would not have wasted their time.

One of the other artists, Ace Chung, a fifth-year graduate student in Hopkins's Material Science and Engineering program, was disappointed with how the event was advertised. He felt that no one knew that its Facebook page existed, and that people probably just deleted the "Today's Annoucements" emails where it was listed. He said, "The only way people knew about this event was by word of mouth."

This may have been another reason why atten-

dance was relatively light in the morning. If the event's planners continue to hold the event from 10 - 4, they need to brainstorm more effective ways to reach out to the student body and encourage more people who do not have morning classes to come. Attendance will always fluctuate on some days more than others, but general awareness certainly needs to increase.

The artists themselves might have a shared role in increasing attendance by producing work that speaks to their audience. Chung's work, for example, while visually impactful with its explosion of fluorescent paint, is confusing. He describes it as a "parody of pop culture," a college-age viewer might have trouble finding the overall significance of a mouse head painted on top of Audrey Hepburn's body. Chung clearly has drive and will "keep painting and practicing a lot more," but he should think more about the actual content of his paintings in order to attract

a larger audience. Finally, it might be nice to see more than just visual artists at future events. Perhaps an improvement in advertising could encourage writers, musicians, etc. to showcase their talents as well. The market already has a solid base of visual artists, but it needs to open some more doors so that other aspiring artists can have their time in the spotlight.

As the first Friday of each month comes and goes, it will be interesting to see if the First Fridays Market, Artists which started off as one person's dream, will become a well-loved, school-wide tradition in the future. For more information about the market, visit https:// www.facebook.com/FirstFridayArtistsMarket]HU email art@jhusga.com.

Freshman Samuel Mullen dishes on artists' masterpieces

The First Friday Artists Market is a sort of flea market-style affair where students pay a small fee for a table and get to hawk some of their art to their fellows. As is traditional with this kind of affair, a decent amount of what was being sold was either poorly made or simply boring. On the boring end of the spectrum there were mugs with "cute" little customizable graphics on them. On the poorly made end of the spectrum, there was a decent amount of the abstract art that makes you think more about what you' are going to have for lunch later today than the meaning of life, and of course there was the booth that sells those crappy little bead bracelets that obviously took all of thirty seconds to put together, look boring and cost five dollars

If I sound a bit harsh towards those bracelets, let me assure you, it is because I hated them — not only were they ugly and overpriced, but the people selling them had the most annoying way of advertising their wares (buy your girlfriend one, tell her you made it, blah, blah,

However, you shouldn't let those three or four artists color your opinions of the Hopkins art scene towards the negative; there were artists there that were actually good, and who more than made up for their lesser brethren.

First there was junior Ava Yap, who can be found at ovoquill.deviantart.com. She was selling five prints of different pieces of her digital art, and frankly her shading is fantastic. While her art does not seem to have any real direction, or deeper unifying meaning, her practiced talent allows her to produce beauty anyway.

Her two best pieces



NATHALIA GIBBS/PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR Students came out to support friends and fellow community members

of art were "Liquefy," a picture of a mysteriously smiling face slowly melting, and "On The Shoulder of a Giant," a picture she made for her father for Father's Day. Both of these prints can be found on her website.

The next artist was the supremely talented senior April Cui. She showcased a large number of water colors and acrylics, all of which were quite good. What was

Samuel Mullen Guest Columnist

perhaps most impressive about her different pieces were the dramatically different styles she employed; while her acrylic paintings were largely done in a very impressionistic style with an obvious focus on the individual characters and the lighting of the paintings, her water colors and pen drawings were incredibly intricate, almost reminiscent of the photorealism movement in the level of details present.

Perhaps her best work was a water color of a gold fish swimming in his bowl. In the curvature of the bowl you can see the world around him. Just a fantastic

work of art. My personal favorites paper-mache

from the market were two sculptures created by Hopkins alum Weston Andersen. The two pieces that he showcased were phenomenal. If anyone has the space in their room for something almost human sized I would rec-

ommend you go out and buy one of his works at

The first of his two pieces, "Luggage," was a sculpture of a life-sized child made entirely out of road maps, sitting in a suitcase, curled up into the fetal position, with more maps sprinkled around the base. It seemed as if it was a living child without a stable home, literally just some humanoid luggage to whoever took

care of it.

His second piece, whose title I could not find, was a person frozen in motion, with an unplugged electrical cord trailing from his leg. It looked like some sort of robot who, in the middle of doing something, was un-plugged and left to die.

The last really great artist there was another acrylic painter. However, unlike Cui, he did not in the slightest embrace impressionism. If anything, he did pop-art; weaving pop culture references throughout all of his art. Probably his best work, "Fear and Loathing in Bikini Bottom," takes the iconic movie poster for Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas, and replaces Hunter S. Thompson, the gonzo journalist, with the equally as jaded Squidward from SpongeBob

All in all, the art fair was fantastic, and sophomore Alex Dash, the man who organized/started the whole thing deserves a round of applause. From what I understand, this should be a monthly event, so come on down to Levering this May and support some Hopkins

#### NEW VIBRATIONS

ARTIST MADONNA **MDNA** Boy Toy, Inc/Live Nation Worldwide, Inc/Interscope March 26, 2012

Hollywood's a strange place: while some musical artists have managed to age gracefully (through their career, of course - Botox is for real aging), there are some who never seem to break out of the original formula that made them famous. Madonna's newest album, MDNA, again that the star is still making music that would be better suited for up-andcomers half her age.

Madonna suggests she's aware that her career's perpetual stagnation when she sings, "I'm stuck like a moth to this flame" on her unmemorable track, "Turn Up the Radio." Yes Madonna, you are.

Most of the tracks on this album are similarly unmemorable due to really atrocious songwriting - in fact, I don't even remember what "I'm Addicted," "Love Spent," or "Falling Free" even sound like. On "Some Girls," Madonna insists she's "everything you've

ever dreamed of," and even makes a reference to "porn star heels." I understand that she's having a complex abut getting old, but I think it is possible to age without ever seeing the need to buy said "porn star heels." On "Superstar," another promtrack, Madonna compares a lover to celebrities. It's an interesting concept, but for some reason, I don't think telling a significant other like they're like Abe Lincoln or Bruce Lee is sexy (Wait. This is Hopkins. Perhaps some people would find that sexy). Also unexpected was the art history lesson in "Masterpiece," when Madonna sings, "If you were the Mona Lisa, you'd be hanging in the Louvre." Yes Madonna, that is a fact.

experiences Personal are usually good sources of inspiration for entertainers, and I was looking forward to tracks abut Madonna's highly publicized divorce from director Guy Richie and rebound Yankees baseball player Alex Rodriguez. What we're left with is a track called "Gang Bang" (I kid you not), which is an inadequate attempt to merge the sounds of Lady Gaga and house music. I thought "Gang Bang" was ending three times before it actually did, and with lyrics like "I shot you dead, shot my lover in the head," I really couldn't wait for the track to be over. "I Don't Give A" sounded promis-

ing when the lyrics began,

"wake up ex-wife, this is

your life," but it's followed by a long list of housewife problems, including the fact that she has no time to get a manicure, has to call her babysitter and forgets her computer password. Madonna deals with these problems by responding "I don't give a \*\*\*\*," Nicki Minaj steps in to perform a rap, and Madonna comes back to end the song with the ever eloquent, "There's only one queen...and that's Madonna BITCH." She's always so tasteful.

And what's a Madonna album without controversy? Madonna essentially

blasphem o u s prayers two her songs, but none them for the same artistic rea-"Like Virgin,"

"Like A Prayer," and "Ray of Light." Instead, Madonna simply aims to create controversy for publicity's sake. When she asks "All the saints and holy men... catch me before I sin again," she doesn't need divine intervention, she's really praying for a new manager.

At its best, Madonna's tracks are only sheer imitations of other celebrities' popular songs. The first track, "Girl Gone Wild," is essentially a 50 year old woman's version of Cyndi

Lauper's "Girls Just Wanna Have Fun" mixed with copious amounts of autotune. I was initially suspicious of the first single off of MDNA, "Give Me All Your Luvin," when I realized she had intentionally spelled "lovin" wrong. was worried that Nicki Minaj and M.I.A.'s collaborations on the track would not fit into, well, anything Madonna's ever sung. Yes, I was right to be suspicious: Her Minajesty's rap very ill-suited for the track, and it blends pop, disco, and New Wave without ever really establishing a

the track. The song begins when Madonna spells out, MADON-NA Y-O-YOU WAN-NA," in a manner rily remi-

niscent of Gwen Stefani's "Hollaback Girl" and Toni Basil's "Hey Mickey," but without the same punch.

Ardent fans of Madonna, if you don't want to take my word for it, look to the numbers: MDNA has the biggest second week sales drop in record charts history. The Queen of Pop's reign is most definitely over unless she can scrape together something brilliant for album number thirteen.

- Devin Alessio

#### Drowsy Chaperone incites audience enthusiasm

DROWSY, FROM B3 characters just right.

The best man, George, played by junior Ben Armuth, spent the play juggling his best man duties. During Armuth's song with the groom, played by Tallman, the two sang and danced in a jovial manner. Although Armuth's voice was soft in comparison to Tallman's, who sang with the power of an opera singer, it fit well with the per-

Mrs. Tottendale, played by Peabody sophomore Katharine Mattie Harris, and her underling, played by sophomore Charlie Mc-George, were a humorous

sonality of his character.

The two had various excellent scenes together. One in particular resulted in Harris spitting on Mc-George numerous times. The two created an adorable duo, as they danced and sang alone on the stage

and the audience ate it up. The only unfortunate

moment was during their final song, which started up after the lights had been turned back on. The two executed the song very well, but it seemed a bit out of place and unnecessary. This was by no actions of the duo, however.

The final character, the aviator, portrayed very well by sophomore Kate Orgera, appeared twice throughout the play, once at the beginning, and again at the end.

Her role seemed a bit random, but her song was very well performed and if anything, was one of the catchiest songs of the play.

All of the cast, the ensemble and everyone behind the scenes, made this play a great success.

Although it was hard to hear some of the dialogue at times because of the volume of the orchestra, the play is still a must-see. If you get a chance, take an hour or two off and go see it this coming weekend.

## CARTOONS, ETC.

Blue Jay Brigade









Three Weeks

By Katie Mann



## The Magnum Opus of Art

W S S E A S K M M C X O I Y E F Y T J T S W Y C I G A Q R G A H A B P Q I M R S A M C V X L S T W D N K L M E T Y C G X S L U W A A A U A C T X L N P X F E S U D N T A N X R P I S P A D T S W E N D T O F Q K O Y L A H G O A T A K L M Z N P N P V A Y E L T I L S Y S O R L Z I J S S Q O C R C Z F I A Q Q D Q K I J P C H I Y W L N M L Y L P G B N F W M P M X O M R T Y P B C C T D O E S U S H G V X I P M C A A F D N Q X N B P P C O A V L P S K A N Y W B C I T I Z E N K A N E H F P S R T E L M A H O R G W Q S

Citizen Kane (Film)
Watchmen (Comics)
Mona Lisa (Painting)
StatueDavid (Sculpture)
Hamlet (Theater)
Sopranos (Television)
Clannad (Visual Novel)
Spirited Away (Anime)
Lion King (Animation)
Shadow Colossus
(Video Game)

WANTED: The Senior Staff of the Cartoons and Graphics Sections are preparing to graduate. We are looking for new editors and staff to fill their place.

Email: cartoons@jhunewsletter for more information

## SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

## Light stimulus triggers Optimal ventilator settings increase survival memory recollection

By ELLE PFEFFER

health of these patients.

to breathe. Still, around

40 percent of the 190,000

ALI patients in the United

States die in the hospital

The mortality rate for

ALI patients is so high be-

cause of the impaired func-

tion of the inflamed and de-

structed lung tissue. There

is only a limited amount

of functioning tissue left

that is still able to fulfill the

body's oxygen demands.

As a result, this shrunken

amount of healthy tissue

becomes stressed under

care researchers discov-

ered that by pumping only

small breaths through the ventilator tube and into the

patient's lungs to keep the

amount of stress and pressure down, patient death

rates could be reduced by

These treatment meth-

ods will not only affect in-

hospital care but also con-

tinued health afterward,

meaning that the almost

60 percent of ALI patients

who are at high risk for

death during the two ensu-

up to eight percent.

The Hopkins critical

large breaths.

every year.

By MO-YU ZHOU Staff Writer

Have you ever had a single scent, melody or picture transport you to a distant memory? MIT scientists have done something similar but with neurons as the trigger. In other words, they have been investigating whether a few neurons can bring to mind an entire

This feat, achieved for the first time recently, is called optogenetics, and it is powerful enough to use brief pulses of light to control genetically modified neurons and artificially turn on memories.

First, the researchers identified the neurons in mice that become activated when a new memory is being formed. Their focus was on the hippocampus, which has a significant role in learning and memory, and is known for its ability to recognize places. They then inserted a gene that codes for a protein sensitive to light into neurons in the hippocampus. This enabled them to use light to control the neurons.

They then set out to give

The mice received a mild electric shock to a foot in a specific environment. The shock resulted in behaviors characteristic of mice when they experience fear: treezing in place. The mice then developed an association between the environment where the shock was delivered and the shock.

At this point, the scientists were poised to figure out whether they could activate the memory of fear through controlling the neurons. By directing light to the hippocampus, they activated some of the neurons involved in forming the memory. As a result, the mice froze in place, expressing fear. The entire memory seemed to have been triggered through merely stimulating the neurons.

To verify their results i.e. that the mice were indeed recalling the original memory — the researchers performed several tests. They gave some mice the same protein that was sensitive to light, but did not shock them. Other mice were not given the protein but were given the shock.

SEE OPTOGENETICS, PAGE B9



COURTESY OF WWW.ERS-EDUCATION.ORG

Breath size and pressure reduction in ventilators increases survival rate of those with acute lung injury.

ing years can be helped.

The importance of lungprotective ventilator settings is not exactly news; researchers have known for some time that these settings may increase short-term survival, in part by reducing inflammation and in allowing other vital

However, the Hopkins researchers discovered that 59 percent of the 6,240 ventilators examined during this study were not functioning under the

In fact, they also showed that with each unit increase in the ventilator's tidal volume during the patient's stay at the hospital, the mortality risk over two years rose a frightening 18 percent. Tidal volume is the amount of air one normal inhales and exhales without exerting extra effort. It is measured in milliliters per kilogram of patient pre-

challenge of rapidly recognizing an acute lung injury before starting standard treatment and generating a proper tidal volume set-

The study, which was published in the British Medical Journal, examined over 450 cases of patients with acute lung injury during their time in the ICU at one of four Baltimore hospitals. Moreover, the researchers continued to study the patients, most of

whom were over the age of 50, for two years after their treatment.

The National Institutes of Health and the Canadian Institutes of Health Research funded this research. Further study will involve "quality of life" analysis for patients past the two-year mark, so that ventilator effects can be more closely examined, and long-term patient health may be im-

COURTESY OF WWW.UNOMAHA.EDU Light can be used to stimulate neural activity in genetically modified mice

organs to operate properly.

lung-protective settings.

dicted body weight.

Reasons for the lack of ideal treatment include the

#### Controversy over use of angioplasty addressed

By MICHAEL YAMAKAWA Staff Writer

The issue with performing angioplasty, a technique used to widen blood vessels, in hospitals without proper surgical units has long been a controversial topic. Many cardiologists claim that the lack of emergency care can lead to increased adverse events.

A study, officially called the Cardiovascular Patient Outcomes Research Team Elective Angioplasty Study (CPORT-E), was presented at the American College of Cardiology annual meeting in Chicago to address the concern of safety measures for angioplasty. Interestingly, the results showed that there is no exigent need to perform angioplasty in hospitals with an on-site cardi-

ac surgical unit. Emergency angioplasty is performed during a heart attack to remove the plaque stuck to vessels, blocking blood from travelling into the heart. During the procedure, a balloon is inflated in the vessel that has trapped the plaque and a stent is attached to keep the vessel open. In very rare cases, the procedure can cause rips in the vessel or collapse of the artery, which would require im-

mediate cardiac surgery known as emergency coronary artery bypass.

There has been a great drop in the number of emergency surgeries needed during angioplasty. In 1979, 10 percent of patients required emergency coronary artery bypass grafting, while in 2002, the percentage dropped to 0.15 percent. Despite this decline, the concern for safety at sites without available emergency surgery units persisted.

Cardiologists ably claim that the lack emergency could lead to more adverse events due to the low number of procedures performed and inexperienced staff. Of course, even with a lowered incidence rate of emergency surgery, there were still cases that required coronary-artery bypass grafting to repair the tears incurred during angioplasty.

On the other hand, lifting any regulations that prohibit hospitals without an on-site surgical unit to perform angioplasty could potentially increase the survival of heart attack victims. The duration between the heart attack and the procedure, for one, can

SEE CARDIAC, PAGE B8

## Diverse fish specimens displayed as X-ray images

X-Ray Vision: Fish Inside and Out features more than 70 percent of the world's species of fish

By CHRISTINA WARNER Editor-in-Chief

The Smithsonian's National Museum of Natural tors an "inside" look at fish with its visiting exhibit, X-Ray Vision: Fish Inside and

Already, the Smithsonian's National Collection of Fishes amounted to the largest representation of fish specimen, with more than 70 percent of the world's species. Some-times called the "fish library," the Smithsonian houses the 6.2 million specimens in its Museum Support Center.

While some species are represented by only one specimen, others are represented by males, females, larvae and eggs. The oldest of the collection dates back to the 1800s.

The x-ray exhibit was developed by the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibit Service (SITES) and will travel to other venues following its time at the Museum of Natural His-

tory.
"The exhibit was produced by the Smithsonian and it features images that were made as part of the ongoing research projects at the National Museum of Natural History. Plus, the images are beautiful as well as informative. It was only natural that the exhibit be at the Smithsonian as part of its tour," Lynne Parenti, the curator



COURTESY OF WWW.MNH.SI.EDU A new exhibit at Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History offers a wealth of information on fishes.

of the exhibition wrote, in an email to The News-Letter.

Tucked in the back of the rooms devoted to aquatic and marine displays, X-Ray Vision fills a small room that makes economical use of its wall space. The majority of the exhibit are framed x-rays, though in the center are vials of preserved speci-

These specimen serve as a focal point to the ex-

hibit and also as a method of drawing people in, especially with the stark subject contrasting against the bold blue background of the room. Each x-ray is described with particular attention to the specimen, its discovery date, and often how the organism factors into the marine ecosystem. The x-rays allow visitors

to examine the specimen through black-and-white

radiographs. This method of study prevents any cutting or other dissection that may alter the specimen. It also allows various specimens to be displayed in great detail, allowing focus on bone structure and diversity between the species. For specimen like the Monterey skate, or Raja montereyensis, the x-ray reveals the cartilage skeleton that exists in skates,

SEE SMITHSONIAN, PAGE B9



Emergency angioplasty increases survival even without surgical back-up.

#### SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

### Massive solar tornado captured on film for the first time

Staff Writer

As volatile as the weather is on Earth, weather on the Sun can be just as ex traordinary. Recently, scientists observed massive magnetic vortices on the surface of the sun, which can lead to a type of solar tornado. The structures were observed by NASA's Solar Dynamics Observatory (SDO), and studied by Xing Li of Aberystwyth University in Wales

Beyond their shape, solar tornadoes share very few similarities with the tornadoes that terrorize much of the central United States. These tornado-like occurrences, also known as solar prominences, are dense solar structures that extend from the surface of the sun. The exact cause of this phenomenon is still

similarity tween them is that material is sucked up from the ground," Li wrote in an email to The News-Letter. "Of course, the sun does not have a ground but atmosphere at lower height is much denser.

Solar tornadoes are shaped by the powerful magnetic field of the sun. These magnetic fields are dynamic and can produce offshoots. The tornadoes usually occur with coronal mass ejections, which is a process during which plasma, a form of superheated ionized gas, is ejected from the sun. They are subsequently taken up by the magnetic field as a swirl of

"Once some threshold is reached, the surrounding solar corona will experience an even larger explosion: coronal mass ejection," Li wrote. "Huge



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For the first time, scientists videotape massive coronal mass ejections, which are responsible for northern and southern lights.

amounts of charged particles as fast as one thousand kilometers per second are thrown away from the sun into interplanetary space. When such coronal mass ejections are heading toward the Earth, they can impact our space environment, damage satellites, [and] even knock out [the] power grid."

In extreme cases, when the coronal mass ejections strike Earth, they can also cause, temporary disruptions in GPS signals and communications, due to fluctuations in the electromagnetic Moreover, they are also re-

sponsible for the stunning neon-colored aurora borealis and aurora australis, or northern and southern lights respectively, seen around Earth's poles. As they come into Earth's atmosphere, they interact with air and release energy, seen as colorful light.

These coronal mass ejections are not to be taken lightly. In the event of a massive eruption, millions of people could lose power during the cold, dark winter and freeze to death.

Astronauts on satellites would be exposed to dangerous levels of radiation. communications on the affected hemisphere could come to a standstill and countless pieces of scientific equipment, including life support systems, would become defunct.

netic field probwill ably protect us from ably all but the strongest coronal mass ejections.

By comparison, tornadoes on Earth are caused by the combination of unstable air (warm, humid conditions) and

shifting wind directions at different elevations. This leads to shear stress in the air, which when the axis of

Luckily, the Earth's mag-

CMEs can impact our space environment, damage satellites, [and] even knock out power grid.

> -XING LI, ABERYSTWYTH million de-UNIVERSITY

> > rise the prominence. It then traveled at rapid speed in a spiral path toward the upper solar atmosphere.

### Lights used to control neurons

ed, can form a tornado. Torna-

do wind speeds

can get up to 300

mph for an F5

aboard an Atlas

Cape Canaveral,

the home of the

program. It was

built at NASA's

Goddard Space-

flight Center in

Greenbelt, Mary-

land, and carries

three instrumen-

tation packages. The Helioseis-

mic and Magnet-

ic Imager records

The Atmosphere

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bly images the

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at short inter-

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Extreme Ultra-

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Observatory

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to 3.6

Experiment measures the

sun's emission of extreme

filmed, for the first time,

a massive solar tornado

Recently, NASA's Solar

ultraviolet waves

**Dynamics** 

wavelengths

magnetic field of then sun.

rocket from

was

2010

Shuttle

in

tornado.

mission

The

launched

February

OPTOGENETICS, FROM B7 Still other were tested in a different environment that was not associated with

These tests all supported the original finding, since none of these subsequent tests resulted in the mice freezing up. Thus, it seems that the pulse of light did indeed result in the activation of the memory of fear.

Optogenetics had been introduced by a research group at Stanford, led by Karl Deisseroth, who contributed to the present study, in 2004. Its advantage over traditional techniques like electrical or chemical stimulation is that it is fast and precise. In fact, traditional techniques can only alter unspecified brain activity and does not allow for precise timing. However, using optogenetics, it is possible to control a small number of neurons on a

millisecond time scale. Previous research over the past few years has used optogenetics in highly potent ways to study disorders such as anxiety, depression, Parkinson's disease and schizophrenia. This new study now shows that a few neurons can be artificially stimulated to trigger an old memory, in essence controlling animal behavior without necessitating sensory

However, the possibility of applying this technology to human brains is still distant. The first steps toward this possibility, though, have been taken. Researchers at Brown are developing a wireless optical electrode that is meant to deliver light to human

## Earth may be younger than we think

By ANNE MCGOVERN For The News-Letter

When hearing the isotopic ratio for uranium has been measured to a more accurate value of 137.818, from a previous value of 137.88, one might not think it is such a big deal. However, a recent study indicates that this small bit of change calls for an age reduction of understood geological processes for up to 700,000 years. The study was conducted at the British Geological Survey and MIT the same research group that determined the new

Radioactive dating is used to determine the age of rocks that were formed on massive time scales. In Uranium-Lead dating, the type discussed in this study, scientists measure the relative amount of U238 and U235 isotopes present in a sample, and then calculate the age.

"Minerals typically grow from a magma, which contains a small amount of uranium," Joe Hiess, a Marie Curie ITN Experienced Researcher at the British Geological Survey, wrote in an email interview to The News-Letter.

Using zircon as an example: as the mineral cools, it sequesters certain amounts of different elements within its crystal lattice, including trace amounts of uranium. "The minerals are initially dissolved into solutions using strong acids and then chemically purified in clean laboratories using resins and various reagents before being introduced into the mass spectrometer for analysis" Hiess explained.

The spectrometer allows scientists to determine what type and how many atoms are present



COURTESY OF WWW.MINERALTIVADAR.HU Scientists use zircon as an example to explain uradium-lead dating

in the mineral sample. Subsequently, the relative amount of U238 and U235 detected through the spectrometer is used to determine the ratio. Hiess's study, for example, uses this technique.

For the past 35 years, the value 137.88 has been used to calculate the age of rocks using the Uranium-Lead dating method. However, Hiess and his team of scientists discovered many

"Firstly, the consensus value of 137.88 couldn't be traced back to international standard units like the kilogram. Secondly, the old consensus ratio had no uncertainty assigned to it, [and] thirdly, the previous measurements were made on materials like uranium ores - and not on naturally occurring minerals that are routinely used for U-Pb dating studies,"

Hiess wrote. The result of these issues was an alarming mix-

ture of a number that was difficult to calibrate, contained an inaccurate assurance of its invariance, and an additional amount of uncertainty based on questionable sampling meth-

Hiess' new number 137.818, with an uncertainty of  $\pm$  0.045, promises to provide more accurate dates. "Several research areas will specifically benefit from the increased confidence to U-Pb age dating, such as timescale calibration, the dating of geologically 'instantaneous' events like meteorite impacts, and perhaps most importantly, in refinements to the uranium decay constants using closed system minerals" Hiess

Though more accurate dates are a plus, geologists must now greatly reconsider many geological processes that we thought were fixed, including the age of planet.

## Safety of angioplasty underestimated

CARDIAC, FROM B7 be significantly reduced if more local hospitals are permitted to perform it. This can subsequently im-

prove the outcomes.

Extending primary angioplasty capabilities to hospitals can provide patients access to better therapeutic options for heart allure, especially in areas where the recruitment and retention of cardiologists are difficult.

Moreover, an increase in volume of these procedures in hospitals can eventually improve the performances and experience of the staff.

CPORT-E evaluated 18,867 angioplasty patients randomly chosen fromhospitals withor with-

out a cardiac surgi-'unit. After the 9-month study, it was found that outcomes at hospitals without an on-site surgical unit did not differ significantly from outcomes at hospitals with an onsite surgical

Thomas Aversano, an associate professor of cardiology at the Hopkins School of Medicine

admonished any oversimplification of the data from this study, however. He claimed that in spite of the conclusions of the study, it did not warrant unrestrained extensions of angioplasty pro-

According to Aversano, hospitals that participated in the study adhered to stringent procedures for the angioplasty development program, which was heavily supervised.

Furthermore, the hospitals qualified for the study only if they could maintain their angioplasty program 24 hours a day, seven days a week, and were sufficiently productive enough to perform at least 200 angioplasties a

volume operators, which was one of the primary concerns of angioplasty performance.

As licensing agencies require compelling evidence that demonstrates the hospitals' capabilities, it will be a dilatory process to approve certain hospitals without on-site surgical units to perform angio-

However, the study was not intended to expand the number of angioplasty programs. Instead, CPORT-E can provide health-care regulators with valuable information to decide appropriate geographic distribution of angioplasty performances in local ar-



COURTESY OF WWW.HOUSTON.VA.GOV who led the Emergency angioplasty can be used during heart attacks to restore cardiac blood flow.

#### **SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY**

## Fishes displayed as art & science

SMITHSONIAN, FROM B7

rays, chimaeras and sharks. Moreover, X-rays can also show any undigested food in the guts of the fish, allowing ichthyologists to understand the fish's role in relation to other critters in the environment

The exhibit also includes a focus on the collection process and method of studying,

includ the The exhibit conx-ray itself. veys the idea that Wilhelm we conduct re-Rontgen is credited search on with discovery of comparative x-radiation morphology of and took the first medical fishes at the x-ray, which happened Smithsonian. to be of his - LYNNE PARENTI, wife's hand, in Decem-

used this technique to study organisms or minerals in rock, and even far away stars.

1895.

Scientists

have since

The x-rays of 40 specimens are displayed, each explained by a panel that it relates to the environment, science or other fish species. For example, Dhiho's Seahorse measures a little over an inch, but the x-ray allows viewers to note features such as its characteristic head and tail at much greater detail.

The images are arranged in evolutionary sequence

so one may examine the physiological changes throughout time. tors simply examine the x-ray note details such as the number of vertebrae or placement of fins. However, EXHIBIT CURATOR the exhibit

> conclusions scientists have drawn from studying these x-rays.

tures

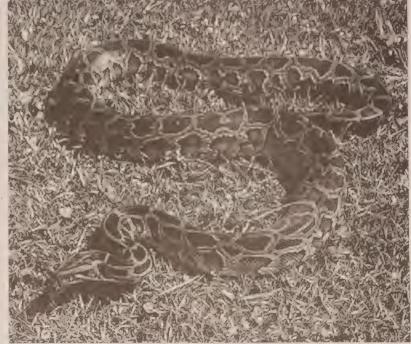
To better compare the fishes, radiographers limit each X-ray frame to one fish and made sure every fish faced the left. Howevtured in group shots to facilitate group comparison.

The winghead shark, or eusphyra blochii, is a Tshaped fish that one might recognize to be a hammerhead shark. Its eves are set at the tips of its head, which scientists think allows it to have a greater field of view

Amidst the other permanent displays in the museum, the x-ray exhibition features a unique combination of art and science. "The naturally beautiful x-rays were produced as part of research projects by Smithsonian scientists. The 40 images represent the evolution of fishes, from the primitive sharks and rays through to the spinyfinned perches and their relatives," Parenti wrote.

Public response has been positive and Parenti is enthusiastic that the mission of the exhibition is reaching a sizable audience. "The exhibit conveys the idea that we conduct research on the comparative morphology of fishes at the Smithsonian,"

The X-Ray Vision exhibit will remain on display until Aug. 5, 2012.



Vicious Burmese pythons prey on both eggs and mother birds, greatly threatening endogenous species.

#### Hungry snakes hunt bird eggs

a pain in the gluteus maximus, and the Burmese pythons are no exception. Like poor and desperate college students, these voracious snakes will do almost anything for food. With this insatiable appetite, they have decimated most of the mammal populations in the Florida Everglades and now have their eyes on the birds.

These 16 foot-long reptiles are not the type to sit and wait for birds that are unfortunate enough to cross their line of sight. Like the cunning cuckoo, they seek out the homes of birds and snatch their eggs straight from the nest. Study researcher Carla Dove of the Smithsonian Museum of Natural History says that although the sample size is small, the findings suggest that the snakes could pose a threat to the breeding success of native birds.

The snakes, originally native to Southern Asia, were detected in 2000, when rangers removed two snakes from the swampland. Since then, the python population has exploded, with more than 300 snakes being removed from the Everglades ever

year since 2007. The origin of this invasion, scientists suspect, are people who kept these snakes as household pets.

Relatively speaking, the pythons are one of speaking, the newer additions to the hall of invasive species. Famous examples include zebra mussels and kudzu, a Japanese vine that smothers native plants in their leafy embrace. These invasive spe-

cies tend to thrive in environments similar to their own. Except in the absence of strong predators and com-

petitors, they become the supreme rulers of the land. Good invaders tend to have evolutionary traits that would make them very successful even in their native environments. They tend to breed explosively, can eat almost everything they see, and can easily adapt to different situations. Sounds a lot like us, doesn't it? Of course, not all invaders are not leafy, slimy creatures Australia, for instance, is currently dealing with a plague of cute and cuddly

Like most invasive spe-

cies, the pythons are living the life in their new environment. The native animals, having never evolved defenses against these eating machines, are easy kills for the snakes. With no predators to stand against the pythons, the local mammals and vegetation have essentially become a giant buffet. Unfortunately, the pythons just love spreading their

seed searchers estimate that at least tens of thousands of them have infiltrated the National

Everglades Park.

**Melanie Hsu** 

**Animal Antics** 

To better understand the opportunistic invaders, the researchers moni-tored the python's diet by probing the contents of their stomachs. In a previous study of 300 captured snakes, they found that about 25 percent of the python's diet was composed of more than 25 species of birds. Talk about a diverse diet!

In the latest study, researchers found proof that the snakes were terrorizing nests. In their stomachchurning study, they found whole eggs in the stomachs of three specimens. Most snakes evolve adaptations that enable them to pierce eggshells, but the python's large size and preference for small eggs allows them to swallow them whole. Think of it as the difference between swallowing a tiny gumball and chewing on a jawbreaker.

The three specimens in this study include a 14-pound male about 8.5 feet in length, which was acquired near a house in Florida's Miami-Dade County. The snake regurgitated 10 guinea fowl eggs soon after his capture, all of them intact. In addition, the team found the remains of two more eggs in a 30-pound female python, with a length of over 10 feet.

The researchers analyzed shell fragments from the crushed bird eggs and compared them with intact samples from the Smithsonian collection. The victims turned out to be from a bird called a limpkin, a large marsh bird that is listed as a "species of spe-cial concern" by the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission.

According to their observations, the invasive pythons are snacking on both adult birds and eggs. This represents the first known instance of an invasive species preying on nesting birds. Given our history of importing exotic animals, it probably will not be the last. While there may be almost no limits to what pets one can keep, hopefully at least no one will be naive enough to introduce any nasty piranhas to our poor, defenseless lakes.

## Genetics research on schizophrenia offers new possibilities

COURTESY OF WWW.SITES.SLEDU

By ERICK SUN Sports Editor

viduals.

Recent work done by group of Hopkins researchers has shed new light on the factors contributing to the development

The findings, published in Cell, highlight the connections between schizophrenia and the combination of both genetic and environmental risk factors that can increase the chances of developing this disorder.

of schizophrenia in indi-

According to the study, a newborn can either carry defects in schizophreniarisk genes or be subjected to environmental stress soon after birth, but still have the same chances to grow and develop normally as do a newborn without such difficulties. However, when defective genes and stress both occur together, the chances of schizophrenia development rise by nearly 140 percent.

In order to gain some real quantitative data, the Hopkins team examined Disrupted-in-Schizophrenia (DISC1), which is a protein necessary for brain development, and the brain chemical GABA, a key ingredient for normal brain function.

The scientists then genetically engineered mice to produce lower levels of DISC1 in the hippocampus of the brain.

The results showed that the neurons of the mutant mice actually are similar in size and morphology to neurons of normal, unmutated mice. Next, the researchers increased levels of GABA in mice and found the neurons to be longer and contain more projections when compared with their normal counterparts.

X-ray images allow scientists to look "inside" fishes without using invasive procedures, such as dissection.

Finally, when the two mutations were combined in the same cell, the neurons were found to be the longest and have the most projections.

The findings suggested that while a single defect could still lead to normal growth, the occurence of both defects together would more likely alter brain development, causing increase in susceptibility to disease.

While the team at Hopkins continued their research, another group at the University of Calgary had teamed with the National Institute of Physiological Sciences in Japan to perform their own experiments on environmental stress and its effects on newborn mice develop-

. The joint team also worked with the DISC1 protein, but in their study, they also incorporated stress factors in the mice, They did so by separating newborns from their moth-



COURTESY OF WWW.FAQS.ORG

The combination of genetic and environmental risk factors significantly increases chances of schizophrenia.

ers for three hours everyday in the first ten days of

What they seemed to agree with the data obtained by the Hopkins team: stress alone often led to normal growth, but a combination of stress and reduced levels of DISC1 expression yielded neurons sending projections into the wrong re-

gions of the brain. Furthermore, the researchers examined the genomes of 2,961 schizophrenia patients and healthy individuals, looking at the DNA sequences coding for DISC1 and a protein called NKCC1, which regulates

GABA in the brain. They found that people with a single base mutation in both genes resulted in 1.4 times higher chance of having schizophrenia. Meanwhile, hav-

ing a mutation in only one

of the genes yielded no change in the possibility of schizophrenia develop-

The research offers a new and exciting method to attack the schizophrenia disease from a genetic standpoint. With greater insights on the genetic factors, researchers can determine novel and effective drug treatments to combat this psychiatric disorder.

#### SPORTS

#### A Frank Take: NHL First Round Preview Women's Tennis tops

By FRANK SCHIFF For The Vews-Letter

Now the real fun begins. The long slog that culminates with sixteen wins and the grand prize

of Lord Stanley's Cup started last night, Wednesday, Apr. 11.

Sixteen teams, eight difmatchterent ups, one paramount goal. This is the most exciting time of the year - playoff hockey

round pairings are set, and no matchup is more wildly pated than the fourth-seeded Pittsburgh Penguins taking on the fifth-seeded Philadelphia Flyer in the Eastern Conference If their last regular season game was any indica-

tion, this playoff series will be smack full of head banging physicality, trash talk and fisticuffs

Flyer forward Scott Hartnell had this to predict to Sports Illustrated: there will be "A lot of blood."

Just two weeks ago, the Flyers were closing out a landslide 6-3 victory over the Penguins in Pittsburgh when a literal Battle Royale took place.

After Penguins' fourthline forward Joe Vitale crushed Flyer star player Danny Briere at center ice a hit that has knocked Briere out of the first-round - every player rushed to the scene, dropping gloves, sticks and helmets while throwing haymakers in the process. Even the teams' coaches were ablaze.

Never before seen footage had Flyers head coach Peter Laviolette and Penguins assistant coach Tony Granato climbing to the top of their benches to peer over the dividing glass, meanwhile barking at each other.

Each was fined thousands of dollars by the NHL.

Let's just say they weren't exactly scheduling their next meet-andgreet. Yet, destiny did that for them. On Wednesday night, these cross-state rivals will begin their bestof-seven series

As one NHL executive told ESPN.com this week, "Both teams are well-run and they're strong teams, and this is going to be a painful loss for whoever goes down in the first

As much as I love the Flyers' high scoring attack and gritty style, led by fan favorite Wayne Simmonds who is seemingly in the middle of every. single. scrum and who, by the way, has a career high 28 goals on the year, I am compelled to pick the Penguins in six games.

No team score

for this: Evgeni Malkin and Sidney Crosby

Malkin is simply a magician with the puck — leading all NHL players this year in points with

#2 Boston Bruins Vs. #7 Washington Capitals: This is another compelling series teaturing last year's champion, the Bruins, against our hometown Capitals. Boston, led by red-hot

helped them win the Presidents' Trophy. Canucks win in five.

#2 St Louis Blues Vs. #7 San Jose Sharks: The Sharks are a playoff-savvy team,

reaching conference fiin each nals of the last two vears and have not missed the playoffs 2003. I look for them to take advantage of a less-experienced Blues squad who has only made the playoffs twice within the last seven seasons

The Sharks are finally playing without the absurdly high expectations of the last three years, which perennially accompany any team placed within the top Meanseeds.

while, the Blues may start to feel the pressure of this matchup. St. Louis has been the biggest surprise around the league this year, and many experts believe they have overachieved.

Yet, Blues head coach, Ken Hitchcock, a favorite to win the Jack Adam's award, given to the leagues best head coach, will keep his team even-keeled. This matchup will go to the brink. Sharks win in seven.

#3 Phoenix Coyotes Vs. #6 Chicago Blackhawks: This series features two evenly matched teams. Although the Blackhawks have far greater playoff experience, the Coyotes have goaltender Mike Smith who has emerged as a top-five net minder in the league. He carried the Coyotes to the Pacific division crown and will likely have to do the same if they have any hopes of beating a deep Chicago team. I don't see it happening, Blackhawks win in six.

#4 Nashville Predators Vs. #5 Detroit Red Wings: Another great four-five matchup. This one features two familiar foes that battled it out with the Blues all season for the Central division title. These two teams play a similar style of hockey and both have strong aspirations for a

lengthy playoff run. However, Nashville has the best shutdown D pair in the league and better special teams. Detroit also struggles mightily on the road, as shown by their 17-21-3 road record. Meanwhile, they have to go into a deareningly loud building.

If Detroit wants to win, their stars - future Hall of Famer Pavel Datsvuk, bull Johan Franzen, and perennial all-star Henrik Zetterberg - need to step up and take over the series. This matchup will come down to the wire. Nashville wins

goaltender Tim Thomas, who has only once allowed more than two goals in his past eight starts, carries a strong 7-2-1 finish into the postseason

Penguin center Sydney Crosby has scored 25 points in 14 games since returning from his concussion.

109. While Crosby, is well.

the season with ongoing

back. Since then, he has

torched teams for roughly

two points a game - 25

points in 14 games - and

proven, once again, he

plays a different breed of

hockey. This star studies

the material, aces the test,

and starts teaching the

class as the hockey world

ultimately come down to

role players are able to get

under Pittsburgh's skin,

knocking the big guns off

their game, a trend devel-oped over their last few

However, the playoffs

are a different animal all

together. I still look at the

Penguins' superior depth

at scoring and at the blue

line as reasons Pittsburgh

series is only one of eight

high velocity matchups.

Here are my picks for the

#1 New York Rangers Vs.

#8 Ottawa Senators: The

Rangers are a tough team

to gauge entering the post-

season. They stumbled at

the end of the year, losing

three of their last four, and

squandered the oppor-

tunity to claim the Presi-

dents' Trophy (given to

the team with the best reg-

They have a stud goalie

in Henrik Lundqvist and

one of the league's best top

lines, featuring forward Marion Gaborik. The Sen-

ators have mostly over-

achieved this season and,

even so, barely snuck into

the playoffs. Rangers win

ular season record). Yet

believe in this club.

The Flyers-Penguins

will advance

next seven series.

regular season games.

I think this series will

Philadelphia's

stands back in awe.

whether

After missing much of

symptoms

has battled

. .Crosby

concussion

'The Kid"

COURTESY OF BLEACHERREPORT.COM

Meanwhile, the Capitals are finally completely healthy. After missing much of the season, slick forward Nicklas Backstrom is back and looking much like his old self. However, it won't be enough against the battle-tested Bruins. Boston wins in six.

#3 Florida Panthers Vs. #6 New Jersey Devils: The Panthers are back in the postseason for the first time since 2000, but have struggled mightily down the stretch, winning just two of their final ten games. They are cold and the Devils are scalding hot, having raced into the playoffs with a six-game winning streak.

The Devils have not made it past the first round in five years, but I see their fortunes changing. Devils win in five.

#1 Vancouver Canucks Vs. #8 Los Angeles Kings: This is another fantastic matchup that features two of the top goaltenders in the league Roberto Luongo, Vancouver's net-minder, is a perennial all-star. The Kings' goalie, Jonathan Quick, has a name onomatopoetic for his playing style. He has become one of the up-andcoming stars in the NHL and often doesn't get the recognition he deserves, amon problem faced by anyone suiting up for a West Coast small market

Quick was second in the league in goals against average, posting a sharp .195, and was also first in the league with ten shutouts. Yet, the Kings still can't match the Canucks' offensive prowess, whose con-

W, 13-3

## Shorewomen, 9-0

Hopkins ranked eighth-nationally

By SCOTT BARRETT

The Hopkins women's tennis team entered last Saturday's match against Washington College as the eighth-ranked team in the nation, and they once again did not disappoint.

The Lady Jays routed the visiting Shorewomen, winning all nine matches. The 9-0 Centennial Conference victory helped the Jays improve to 5-0 in the conference and 8-4 overall.

The loss was the second in the conference for Washington, dropping them to 5-2 in Centennial Conference competition and 9-3 on the season.

There were several notable Blue Jay performances, highlighted by junior Nandita Krishnan, who won her 91st and 92nd matches of her career in first doubles and second singles.

The victories marked a monumental milestone in her career, moving her into a tie for the fourth most match victories in program history.

In her doubles match, Krishnan and her partner, sophomore Hailey Hogan, set the tone for the Blue Jays right away, handing

...[It was]

impressive team

their opponents Gabie Batista and Jordan one of the most Finnegan an 8-0 defeat. 0

their ef- ever witnessed. forts together and at the first and

second singles positions, Krishnan and Hogan were named The News-Letter's Athletes of the Week.

Freshmen Elanie Baik and Stephanie Rettig followed suit just minutes after the Krishnan-Hogan wallop, defeating Kelsey Mills and Amy Stevens with an identical 8-0 victory in third doubles.

The Jays closed out the doubles matches in stride, as sophomore Abby Clark and freshman Shannon Herndon beat Kat Cohen and Campbell McNicol 8-2 in second doubles.

The mere two games lost in doubles matches marked one of the best performances in the team's history.

In the singles matches, Krishnan handed McNicol her second defeat of the day, winning 6-0, 6-1 in the second singles match. Her singles victory was number 92 overall, tying her with Tanya Gulnik for fourth all-time. Hogan also won her second match of the day at first singles with a 6-1, 6-0 win over Finnegan.

The third singles match looked much like the first, as Herndon defeated Cohen with the same 6-1, 6-0

Herndon's doubles partner, Clark, also recorded a 6-1, 6-0 victory over Batista in fourth singles, while freshman Kaitlyn Coleman won with the same 6-1, 6-0 score over Meghan Tait in sixth singles.

Junior Andrea Berlinghof broke the pattern, however, needing just 12 games to defeat Amy Stevens with a score of 6-0, 6-0 in fifth singles.

The singles sweep in matches, as well as sets, marked the pure dominance of the Lady Jays on the day.

Junior Ariel Several, who watched from the sidelines as she recovers from shoulder surgery, was impressed by her team's performance.

The mere seven games that our team lost [Satur-

day] highlighted one of the most all-around impresvictories that I have that I have ever wit-

nessed,' Several -ARIEL SEVERAL, said h e

> team continued their Centennial Conference match play on

Wednesday, Apr. 11 in Baltimore against McDaniel. The Jays' upcoming schedule also includes traveling to Muhlenberg this

Saturday, and then to Pittsburgh on Sunday for a bout with Carnegie Mellon. The schedule does not let up, as the Jays conclude their Centennial

ference play next week against Gettysburg and Swarthmore. They hope to remain

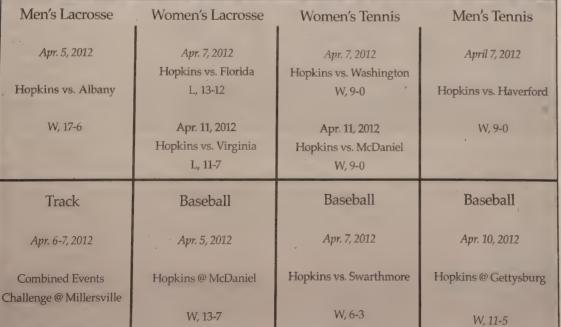
undefeated in Conference play, in preparation for the Centennial Conference Championship tournament on Apr. 28th and 29th.

Hopkins is yet again defending their crown after five consecutive CC championships.



COURTESY OF PRATIK GUHA SARKAR Hopkins figures to move up in the national rankings, released Thursday.





#### **SPORTS**

#### ATHLETES OF THE WEEK HAILEY HOGAN & NANDITA KRISHNAN

By RYAN KAHN Hip Hop Editor

The women's tennis team has competed against and beaten - some of the country's top Division III talents in recent weeks. The Blue Jays feel as strong as ever in their pursuit of their sixth consecutive Centennial Conference championship and first national title. They are currently ranked eighth nationally, the highest ranking in program history, with an updated poll scheduled for Thursday, Apr. 12.

was evident in their utter dominance this past weekend when Hopkins shut out Washington College, 9-0. The win was the Jays' third straight, improving their overall record to 8-4 and conference record to a sterling 5-0. Against the

Shorewomen, doubles-partners Hailey Hogan, a sophomore, and Nandita Krishjunior. nan, a served up a pair of victories; one together and one on their own.

Hogan Krishnan cruised to an 8-0 win at first-doubles before Hogan won at first singles (6-1, 6-0) and Krishnan followed suit at second-singles (6-0, 6-1). Their terrific performances come as little surprise, however Hogan was named Centennial Conference player

of the week for her play the week ending Mar. 28, and Krishnan moved into fourth-place all-time for career wins after this past weekend.

The News-Letter (N-L): You have played some of the top teams in the country throughout the season. How do you think this has helped you to this point, and how will this help the team's suc-

cess in the future? Hailey Hogan (HH): Yes, I absolutely think this has helped me. Playing tough teams, such as Williams and Emory, has inspired me to work harder and to improve my game. The team is so close to beating those top-ranked teams, and we are all working very hard and are very excited to have the opportunity to play such tough opponents.

Nandita Krishnan (NK): This year was undoubtedly the toughest schedule we had ever played, and it has helped us tremendously. We narrowly lost to the number one and two-ranked teams in the nation, so we have the

VITAL STATISTICS

Names: Nandita Krishnan

Years: Junior, Sophomore

Hometowns: Chennai, India

High Schools: Sishya School

Favorite Foods: Anything Indian

Favorite Movies: Love Actually

Accomplishments: Krishnan

and Hogan combined to win their

first-doubles match, 8-0, before

dominating their respective singles

matches, each losing just one game.

Sushi

confidence that we can be

up there with the best. It

helped me get back in to

match shape after being

out for a while and as a

team, it really helped us

figure out our weaknesses

weekend,

and work on them.

Newport Beach, CA

Corona Del Mar

Country Strong

Hailey Hogan



COURTESY OF PRATIK GUHA SARKAR Krishnan (left) and Hogan (right) swept their first-doubles match, 8-0.

N-L: You've shutout three straight conference opponents. What are some of the things the team has been doing well to contribute to these huge wins?

NK: We are fortunate to have so much depth in the team. One of the benefits of having a big roster is that everyone is motivated to play well, and we get to play plenty of matches in practice to stay sharp.

HH: The team has been working very hard on our doubles play. After our spring break trip, we decided that our doubles needed some work and have been focusing a lot on our doubles teams and strategies. The hard work is definitely paying off and we are very happy with our current doubles teams!

N-L: What are some things the team, as well as yourselves, need to improve upon in order to advance in the playoffs?

NK: Fitness is a huge factor. That's what separates the top few teams from the rest and that's what we need to work on to clinch the close, grueling matches. In terms of tennis, we need to keep improving on our doubles play.

HH: I think I personally need to mix up my game more. I occasionally get stuck in a rut and keep making the same stupid play over and over. I think if I mix up my shots some more that would definitely

Î think the team is doing so awesome, and we are finally happy with our lineup. We just need to keep working hard and pull out some tight matches when it really counts.

N-L: What has been your favorite tennis road trip so far this year and why?

HH: Over spring break we traveled to Virginia for the Fab Five tournament. My mom and sister came out to watch me play which was super fun! The team really bonded, and we all became a lot closer.

NK: Indoor Nationals in Indiana was a big one for me, as it was my first tournament back after ACL surgery. The spring break trip to Atlanta was a good one too - it was hectic but we played some great tennis.

N-L: I'm sure you probably get this a lot, but any relation to Hulk Hogan, Hailey?

HH: Haha, no. I am not related to Hulk Hogan! That would be pretty sweet, though.

nia, turned in a Centenni-

al Conference best 147-feet

and three inches discus

throw to start his 2012 sea-

to

year.

On

son off right.

After topping

ence as a ju-

nior in 2011,

Sand seems to

be on his way

stellar season

in his final

women's

side, the un-

derclassmen

played a key

role in giving Hopkins

some of its top

finishes in the

event.

confer-

another

the

### W. Lax falls to Gators and Cavaliers at home

By MIKE KANEN Sports Editor

The Lady Jay lacrosse team had already faced five ranked opponents heading into this past week, and their tough schedule didn't get any easier. On Saturday, Hopkins hosted the fifthranked Florida Gators, falling 13-12 in double-overtime, before again playing host Wednesday night, this time against 12th-ranked Virginia. In the Cavalier contest, a game televised on ESPNU, Hopkins fell, 11-7, dropping their record to 7-5 overall and 0-2 in the American Lacrosse Conference (ALC).

While the tough schedule has caused the Jays to sweat for a few more wins and sob after a few more losses this season, the team is as battled tested as any in the program's history, let alone the country, with just four matches remaining.

Up next for Hopkins may be their greatest challenge yet, as the Jays travel to Evanston, IL on Sunday to face-off with undefeated and top-ranked Northwestern. The Wildcats are the defending National Champions and winners of five of the last six NCAA crown.

The stiff competition the Jays have faced all season long should have them prepared for the critical conference game. Despite the losses JHU suffered this week, their battles with Florida and Virginia only prepared them for the games ahead.

Saturday's affair with the Gators has already gone down as an instant classic in Lady Jay lore. Hopkins jumped out to an early 3-1 lead off unassisted goals from attackmen Colleen McCaffrey, a senior, and Taylor D'Amore, a sophomore. McCaffrey, who notched two of these goals within the game's first six minutes, completed a hat trick in the second half, her fourth straight game with three goals.

After eight minutes of an offensive standstill, the Gators' Shannon Gilroy narrowed the score to 3-2 Both squads would trade goals a pair of goals midway through the first half, as senior attackman Candace Rossi and sophomore midfielder Sarah Taylor tried their best to separate Hopkins from Florida.

Soon, however, the Gators' resiliency became overpowering, and UF scored six consecutive goals to put Florida ahead 9-5 with 16 minutes to play in the second stanza.

Speaking of resiliency, following a timeout, the Blue Jays showed their own spark to march back within one goal via scores from Rossi, McCaffrey, and junior attackman Monica Fischer. Rossi's started the Hopkins rally when she ran past the Gator defense to whip the lavs back onto scoreboard with a nifty side-arm shot just six seconds after Florida had scored. This six

second turnaround was an

D'Amore, who finished the game with a career-high five assists and seven total points and has emerged as the Blue Jays' catalyst this season, fed the ball to Mc-Caffrey and Fischer to set up their goals.

After Florida's Nicole Graziano intercepted a pass and scored an unassisted goal to increase the Gator lead to 10-8, Hopkins again fired three unanswered scores to the back of the cage. D'Amore was again at the forefront, scoring an unassisted goal and tossing an assist to sophomore midfielder Sammy Cermack to even the game at 10 with five minutes remaining.

As the clock dwindled past the two minute warning, the Hopkins offense slowed the game down in an effort to kill time. With 1:13 to go, Rossi emerged with a spin-move to put Hopkins ahead, 11-10.

Trailing for the first time since midway through the first half, Florida won the ensuing face-off and scored just 30 seconds later. The goal, however, was waved off and the Blue Jays regained possession.

Seemingly ahead for good, JHU threw the ball away, giving Florida one last chance to send the game to overtime. With seven seconds remaining, Gabi Wiegand evened things up at 11.

Again, Hopkins bounced back, as Cermack scored early in the first overtime. 30 seconds later, though, and Florida had evened the score to send the game into double overtime.

Hopkins won the faceoff to start the second extra time period, but lost the ball, leading to a free position shot for Nora Berry, Florida's game-winner just 58 seconds in. The win marked the Gators' ninth in a row and first overtime victory in the history of the program.

Coming back after a tough loss is difficult to begin with, but JHU was charged with the task of rebounding against the nationally-ranked Virginia Cavaliers. On a cold night at Homewood Field, Hopkins struggled to find their rhythm, falling behind 7-3 just minutes into the second half. It was again the usual suspects for Hopkins with two goals apiece from Mc-Caffrey and Rossi as well as goals from D'Amore, Cer-

mack and Fischer. The Cavalier offense, led by four goals from Josie Owen, proved relentless, though, scoring three straight goals to finish the game en route to the 11-7 victory. Virginia improved to 10-5.

has Hopkins dropped three straight heading into this weekend's matchup with Northwestern and need to turn things around to assure themselves of a playoff spot. Their schedule eases up after the trip to Chicago when the Jays play Penn State, UMBC and Ohio State to close out the regular season.

## Brown named player of the week

M. TENNIS, FROM B12 winning 6-4, 6-2 and Elgort defeated his opponent 7-5, 7-6. Hersh concluded the match by dropping the first set 3-6, and then coming back to win the next set 6-3 and the final set in a tiebreaker, 10-5.

dominant win The makes Hopkins the only team still undefeated in the Centennial Conference, putting the Blue Jays in a strong position to make a run into late spring.

Brown, the freshman, earned Centennial Conference Men's Tennis Player of the Week for his performances against Franklin & Marshall and Haverford.

At F&M, Brown and Barnaby won at second doubles, and Brown defeated his competitor in straight sets at second singles.

At Haverford this past week, Brown dominated on the court once again, winning both at doubles and singles. His impressive performance has been crucial to the Blue Jays' dominance within the conference, and Brown will continue to be an integral component to Hopkins' success in coming years.

The Blue Jays return to action at Carnegie Mellon on Sunday, before taking on four consecutive Centennial Conference opponents to round out the regular season before the playoffs. Hopkins is confident with its team and looks to build on its five match winning streak.

## Walsh sets record at Millersville

By ERICK SUN Sports Editor

This past the Hopkins men's and women's outtrack teams traveled to Millersville, PA to take part in the Millersville Metrics & Combined Events Chalwhere they faced off against some of the best Division II and III teams the nation had to

After clearsix-feetthe team's last

meet and only coming in sixth place, freshman Ryan Walsh returned to the track with a vengeance at Millersville. Walsh high jumped a Hopkins freshman record six-feet-six-and-three-quarters inches to take first place in the event against 14 other competitors. His efforts not only bested the former freshman record of six-feettwo inches set in 1999, but also placed Walsh in the top 20 of all Division III jump-

Not to be outdone, junior Josh Baker won the 10,000 Meter Run with a time of 32:18.56, beating out his closest competitor, Christopher Poss of California, by over 20 seconds. Baker was followed up by fellow Blue Jay junior Mark Lo Galbo who came in seventh and freshman Josh Kays in ninth.

The men also had several top ten finishes to complement the strong performances of Walsh and Baker.

Freshman Julian Saliani

turned in a strong race in the 1,500 Meter Run to finish fourth in the event while senior co-captain



FILE PHOTO two-inches in Hopkins faced stiff Division II competition at Millersville last weekend.

Brett Schwartz finished second in the 3,000 Meter Run, a mere four seconds behind first place finisher Greg Duckloe of Franklin & Marshall. Schwartz led a line of Hopkins runners as the Blue Jays dominated the event. After Schwartz, junior James Frick, freshman Austin Stecklair, sophomore Robert Ferris and freshman Saksham Gupta rounded out the top six.

Behind Walsh, freshman Alex Naticchia set a freshman record of his own in the long jump, leaping 22-feet-andthree-quarters inches to finish third in the event while sophomore Alex Jebb triple jumped 44-feet-and-eight-andthree-quarters inch to earn another third place finish for Hopkins.

The men's squad was rounded out by senior cocaption Luke Sand who made his first throws of the outdoor season. The senior, playing in his home-state of Pennsylva-

Sophomore Emily Swenson led the Lady Jays with impressive performances in the throwing events. Her 129feet and three inch javelin throw gave her a second place finish in the meet, while also giving her a top 20 distance amongst all Division III throwers. Similar to Sand, Swenson was also the top javelin thrower in the Centennial Conference and is looking to defend her position this season.

Fellow underclassman Ingrid Johnson ran a 2:22.12 time in the 800 Meter Run to finish third in the event behind runners from Kutztown and Shippensburg.

In the 4x100 Meter Relay, the team of freshman Kelley Hussey, senior Alison Smith, sophomore Chloe Ryan and junior Amelia Vallenillar finished fifth with a time of 50.83.

Next up, Hopkins will host the team's one and only home meet of the season at the Hopkins/Loyola Invitational this coming Saturday.



COURTESY OF PRATIK GUHA SARKAR Women's Lacrosse travels to play top-ranked Northwestern on Sunday.

## SPORTS

#### DID YOU Know?

Johns Hopkins and the University of Maryland will meet for the 108th time in men's lacrosse this Saturday evening a series Hopkins leads 68-38-1

#### CALENDAR

FRIDAY Baseball vs. Gettysburg College, 3PM

SATURDAY M. Lacrosse vs. Maryland, 6PM Track vs. Hopkins/Loyola Invite, All Day

#### Women's Tennis continues to roll in 2012



COURTESY OF PRATIK GUHA SARKAR

The women's tennis team has shown no signs of slowing down with just five games remaining in the season. After a difficult stretch, where the team played four opponents in the top 20 of Division III rankings, the Blue Jays have rung off four straight wins in authoritative fashion against Centennial Conference foes. For full coverage, please see Page B10.

## 5

#### Men's Tennis: #1 in Centennial

Another dominant week for the men's tennis team has given the Blue Jays a firm hold on the top spot of the Centennial Conference regular season standings with a 6-0 record. Page B10

#### Athlete of the Week: Krishnan and Hogan

The great play of doubles partners Nandita Krishnan and Hailey Hogan of the women's tennis team has propelled Hopkins to the top of the Division III rank-Page B11

#### **NHL Playoffs:** A Frank Take

After a wild regular season of NHL action concluded this past Saturday, Frank Schiff gives his predictions on how the first round of the postseason Page B10 will unfold.

## S

## Blue Jay freshmen carry Men's **Tennis**

By JARED FRYMAN

Staff Writer

This past Saturday, the Hopkins men's tennis team recorded its fourth shutout of the season, downing Haverford 9-0 and improving to 6-0 in the conference. With only five matches left before the Centennial Conference Tournament, Hop kins sits at the top of the

conference standings. Hopkins started off with three consecutive doubles wins, with junior Andy Hersh and freshman Sam Weissler igniting the fire, putting the Blue Jays up 1-0. Seniors Jacob Barnaby and Warren Elgort were next up on the court, winning at first doubles and tying a school record in the process. Barnaby tied the school record for career conference doubles wins with 26 career wins in Centennial Conference play.

The freshmen tandem of Tanner Brown and Noah Joachim closed out the doubles play, concluding the doubles sweep over the Haverford Fords.

As singles play commenced, Haverford's morale was steadily drained away, as any hope was ripped away by Hopkins freshman Jensen Reiter, winning first singles 6-0, 6-1 and pushing the Blue Jay lead to 4-0.

Weissler then clinched the win for Hopkins at fifth singles, as he defeated his opponent 6-2, 6-1, continuing the impressive streak of winning in straight sets. Joachim followed suit,

SEE M. TENNIS, PAGE B11

## Ranagan's four goals lead Jays LAX

By KEVIN JOYCE Staff Writer

The third-ranked Hopkins men's lacrosse team notched their 12th straight home victory last Thursday, Apr. 5, downing the Albany Great Danes, 17-6, to improve to 9-1 on the season. Just four days after their first loss of the year against North Carolina, the Blue Jays rebounded nicely with 11 different players scoring goals and 14 players tallying at least one point in the convincing win.

Junior midfielder John Ranagan set the tone early in the game, starting the

scoring spree with an unassisted goal just 37 seconds into the game to give the Jays a lead they did not relinquish.

Two more goals, scored by freshman attackman Brandon Benn and junior midfielder John Greeley, capped the first quarter scoring as the Jays went into the second quarter leading 3-1.

Ranagan netted another goal early in the quarter, kickstarting a 7-0 run that gave the Blue Jays an eventual 10-1

notched three more scores in a span of seven minutes, entering halftime with a 7-1 lead over the Great Danes, with senior midfielder Mark Goodrich, junior attackman Zach Palmer and redshirt senior attackman Chris Boland all registering their first goals of the game.

Junior midfielder Lee Coppersmith extended the Blue Jays' streak of scoring within the first minute of the third quarter by catching a feed from Palmer and cashing in with 14:25 remaining to expand the lead to 8-1. A minute and a half later, sophomore midfielder Rob Guida ex-

ploited a man-up situation for the Jays to score his first of the game on a dish from Boland

Boland then recorded the final goal of the Jays' 7-0 run before an Albany goal by Ty Thompson snapped it.

The Great Danes then scored four goals in a span of four and a half minutes, sandwiching another Boland goal, who registered a hat trick for the game. Ranagan, who ended up scoring a career-high four goals on the game, ended a 3-0 run by Albany to ignite a 6-0 response for the Jays

and put the game virtually

goal total since an 18-goal showing versus Delaware early in the 2011 season.

Ranagan's four-goal outburst spearheaded the Blue Jays' offensive per-formance, which was also fueled by three goals and two assists from Boland, two goals and two assists from Palmer and one goal and two assists from Stan-

Junior midfielder Mike Poppleton won nearly three-fourths of his 21 face-offs and snagged a career-high 14 ground balls, highlighting the Jays' dominance in possession.

Hopkins also benefited



KELLY STANDART/PHOTOGRAPHY STAFF advantage early in An overwhelming 17-6 win put the Men's Lacrosse team back on track. the third. Hopkins

The Jays continued their streak with freshman attackman Wells Stanwick's score just 28 seconds into the fourth quarter to extend the lead to 13-5. A fourth goal by Ranagan, followed up by another Palmer score gave the Jays a 10-goal advantage.

Junior midfielder Chase Winter scored his first goal of the season with just over five and a half minutes left in the game. Senior midfielder Trevor Brown joined in on the scoring fest — the first of Brown's career — to close out the scoring for the Blue Jays.

It was Hopkins' highest

from 11 saves in goal by junior Pierce Bassett before he left the game with around five minutes left in the game.

The Jays dominated the stats sheet in both shot count (42-27) and ground balls recovered (42-30) and took advantage of two-ofthree penalized miscues for the Great Danes with extra-man scores. Hopkins is now 10-1 all-time against Albany.

The Blue Jays will return to The Nest on Saturday, Apr. 14 when they welcome the University of Maryland in the 108th edition of the most storied rivalry in the history of college lacrosse.

## Baseball dominates, goes 4-0 against CC

Schwartz seals wins for Blue Jays

By JEFF SCHILL Staff Writer

This past Thursday, the Hopkins baseball team traveled to Westminster, MD, to take on McDaniel for the second time this season. Beating the Green Terror in their previous meeting, the Jays were looking to complete the season sweep. In a dramatic and thrilling ninthinning finish, the Blue Jays did just that.

Senior pitcher Sam Eagleson was on the bump for the Blue Jays when the squad jumped out to an early lead. Sophomore outfielder Mike Denlinger got things started for the Jays with a sacrifice fly in the first inning to score junior infielder Kyle Neverman. The Jays tacked on three more in the second en rout an early 4-0 lead over the Green Terror.

Despite getting down early the opposition did not go passively away. McDaniel scored a total of five runs in the third in-

[Eliopoulos] has

reasons for the

ning to take the lead. Yet, the Blue Jays would answered back tacking on runs in the later nings on team's success. behalf of a

sacrifice fly by junior infielder Adam Weiner and a double by senior catcher Aaron Borenstein. The seesaw type game did not end here — the Green Terror once again answered and scored two runs in the eighth to battle back and take a seven to six lead.

The Blue Jays were thus down to their last two outs in the ninth inning and down a run. Junior Jared Frydman commented on the outlook going into the last inning. "We had to flip the switch. It

was now or never."

Junior infielder and Sports Editor Mike Kanen led the comeback, drawing a one out walk and senior Aaron Borenstein singled to left field to put two runners on base. After the bases were loaded with another single, sophomore first baseman/outfielder Richie Carbone launched a double to plate the tying and the go ahead runs. The Blue Jays then tacked on more runs to exit the inning with a huge 13-7 lead.

Senior closer Aaron Schwartz shut the door in the ninth, meanwhile. picking up his third win of the season.

After the trying series against McDaniel, the Blue Jays were back on the field this past Saturday to take on Swarthmore in a double-header at Homewood field.

In the first game, Senior ace pitcher Alex Eliopoulos was on the hill for the Blue Jays. Eliopoulos was dominant in his outing, going eight strong innings and striking out seven while yielding only three

Eliopoulos once again gave head coach Bob Babb a strong outing. The senior has been a rock all season long for the Blue Jays and one of the biggest reasons

for the team's success.

The Blue Jays were ahead in the game for much of the afternoon but the Garnet came back in the sixth and seventh innings to tie the game, scoring one in the sixth and two in the seventh. The Blue Jays answered back scoring three runs in the bottom of the inning. After Neverman led off with a double the hits became contagious. With the lead at 6-3, the Blue Jays did not

Senior closer Aaron Schwartz came into the ninth inning and retired the Garnet one-two-three to end the first game.

In the second game, sophomore pitcher Tyler Goldstein took the mound for the Blue Jays. The game was close through the first four innings, with the Jays leading 3-1, but then in the fifth the Hopkins offense came alive pouring on seven runs.

The bases were loaded for Carbone when he delivered with a double

down the left field line to plate Junior first been a rock . . . for baseman the Blue Jays and Jeff Lynch and one of the biggest renstein Denlinger then came to the plate and took

the pitcher

deep on the first pitch he saw. This was the third Blue Jay home run in the game and put the Jays up 10-1. The game finished with a score of 13-3 as the Blue Jays completed a commanding sweep of Swarthmore.

The Jays offense ignited this past weekend on behalf of some outstanding individual performances. Lynch went 6-8 on the day with four RBIs. Delinger, Kanen and Neverman also had four RBIs

on the day. The Blue Jays traveled to Gettysburg, PA, to take on the Bullets on Tuesday. Eagleson was dominant on the bump in the early going for Hopkins, taking a no-hitter into the fifth inning. However, in the fifth, the Bullets were able to plate a run and take the lead. In the top of the sixth, the Blue Jays came right back scoring three runs to take the lead. Kanen hit a homerun, his team-leading fourth of the season, to propel the offense in the inning. Kanen's play earned him the Centennial Conference Player of the Week Award.

Going into the seventh, the Blue Jays tacked on four more runs to take a comfortable lead over the Bullets. The Jays never looked back, scoring at least two runs in each of the final four innings of play. Once again, senior Aaron Schwartz came in to close the door on the Bullets, but this time he went the final two innings. Schwartz's performance this last week in multiple games earned him the honor of DIII Baseball Relief Pitcher of the Week.

The Blue Jays won their fifth straight game and will complete regular season play with the Bullets on Friday at Hopkins.

(exposed) The Inderground Jen. history archive unveiled Commemoration celebrates JHE's 136th year Students tell all on new HopSecret site Food and Fellowship mode the grown restration and explores Islamic history SPONSORED BY MARKET The Johns Hopkins News-Letter VILLAGE April 12, 2012 Volume CXVI, Issue XXIII A Collection of Experiences......10-11

Transgender Dating4
Why relationships aren't defined by
which parts you have.
para journa, or
On-Campus Thoughts5
Library Obsession
Musings on a favorite place to study.
Arts & Crafts
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
Why the humanities are a vital part of
Hopkins.
Free Food
Sometimes people just need to eat.
Culture Shock6
A gay student's experience fielding
questions about his sexuality.
*
Dear So-and-So7
Open notes to people at Hopkins.
open notes to people at Hopkins.
C
Secrets8
Fight Club
Do you think you know the rules?
Virginity
One person's take on her first time.
one person s take on her mor time.
Stressing Over Grades9
There's no need to freak out about work.

]	Personal observations about sex at
1	Hopkins.
1	All About Food14
	Cheesecake
ł	Find out about its secret ingredient.
	Ajumma
-	Two perspectives on the local restaurant
1	In the Classroom15
	Creeping
5	Should it really be so easy to stalk your
C	elassmates?
	Office Hou <b>rs</b>
1	What one person thinks professors do
	vith their time.
A	Autism16
	The complexities of relating to siblings.
S	Scattered Thoughts1
	What someone really thinks of you.



Lesbians at Hopkins
Narrative
On-Campus Thoughts
sexuality.  Sex in Gilman  A telling of a couple's escapades.
Random Makeouts
Casual Relationships
Hop life lessons



The Underground

exposed exposed exposed

#### exposed exposed exposed exposed exposed exposed

elcome to Hopkins Exposed, a collection of anonymous first-person narratives that capture aspects of life at Hopkins. Just like you won't know who wrote these pieces we don't directly know either. They were solicited through word of mouth and submitted using a (temporarily) open News-Letter email address. Our hope is that these reflections offer a window into who we are as a community.

A disclaimer: the views expressed herein are not The News-Letter's. They are your views, or the views of the person next to you in class or the views of the people you see on the JHMI every day. They are the views of that person you don't really know, but run into sometimes at parties.

These are the personal — at times deeply personal — thoughts and stories that make up our lives at Hopkins. Some will be familiar, some strange. Some may affirm your beliefs, and some may offend you. Some may make you fear for your hygiene while sitting in places on campus you previously thought safe. But our hope is that they will at least inspire you to think a little bit more about the things you take for granted from your peers.

Although The Underground did not place any limits on subject matter, and accepted articles addressing a range of topics, we were struck by the number of submissions dealing with sex, sexuality and gender identity. Clearly, while forums to discuss these subjects exist, people have more to say. Perhaps there has not been a broad enough dialogue on campus for these topics to really feel safe. We hope that publishing these submissions will be a step toward a more open campus.

To those who contributed to this issue, I personally want to say thank you. You have shared something incredibly precious with me and with our community: yourself.

To those who read this issue, I hope you enjoy the entries as much as I did.

- Laura Muth, Magazine Editor





The Underground

April 12, 2012

# What it's like to have a trans boyfriend

I'm biologically female and I identify as a girl. My first boyfriend was also biologically female, but he was definitely a guy. His name wasn't Tom so that's what I'll call him. His name also wasn't Sarah, but it used to be.

Tom and I met before he transitioned. We were friends. We lived together in a girl's dorm at a summer program. I didn't know why I wanted to be with Sarah all the time. My feelings toward her were really complicated, so I figured I was young and had just never had a best friend like her. It was so difficult to decipher what I wanted from that friendship because at that point I had never had any type of romantic relationship. I didn't recognize that the feelings I was having for Sarah were sexual. Actually, of course I did. That's kind of a dumb thing to say. But it was unbelievably confusing. I vaguely considered the possibility that I might be gay, but something made me think that, whether or not I was, my feelings for Sarah weren't about that.

I now see that I had a huge crush on her for a year before she revealed that she was transgender and straight: a guy who liked girls. One night when I was sleeping over at her house (we only lived a few hours apart), she finally told me everything from under a pillow. She asked me to give her tips on being a girl so she could be more convincing for her parents. She knew they wouldn't understand. This is really embarrassing, but that night I told her that sometimes girls cuddle and that it would be okay if we spooned. I don't know if she believed me or just wanted to be close to someone, but I certainly wanted to be close to her. Him. That was the (very

slow) beginning of our physical rela-

We didn't actually start dating for another year, but we inched closer and closer. I trained myself to adjust all of Tom's pronouns by daydreaming about him and narrating stories to myself in which I practiced the change. I was the only person who knew. When Tom attempted to tell his parents they denied that it was true in the cruelest ways. The one lucky thing that happened was that Tom got a full scholarship to college. It meant he would be minimally dependent on his parents for money and he planned to be an RA after freshman year so his room and board would be paid for too. The one problem was that he still had to rely on his parent's insurance and they didn't want him going to therapy sessions or considering testosterone treatments. They didn't want any of it to be happening at all.

We began dating the summer before he started college. We said "I love you" immediately after our first kiss. It wasn't a big step. Tom already depended on me for emotional support and I had become totally invested in him and his transition months before. I honestly didn't know on a conscious level that we were going to be romantically involved, and that I desperately wanted it, until a few days before our kiss. I don't know what I thought. I guess I was just so confused that I was happy to let the friendship progress in whatever way it would.

Just like I had helped Tom try to be a girl I helped him become a boy. We shopped for new clothes, bought shaving cream and razors for his hairless face and started reading about female-to-male transitions. He ordered binders (undershirts made of very stiff fabric that flatten your breasts) to my house because I had told my parents about his situation and they were cool with it. He also ordered a number of prosthetics for packing, plus a stand-to-pee device. We spent a lot of time ensuring that everything looked natural. He started college as a guy. He had a single in a coed suite and his school was pretty accommodating about altering his student I.D. so it only had initials for his first and middle name.

Our relationship was a secret in most circles. His college friends knew me, and I definitely think my presence helped him to pass, but we didn't tell the majority of people who had known him as a girl. Most people in my high school didn't even know that I had a boyfriend. Partly we hid it because he was relieved to finally be treated as he

**66** He was a guy with breasts

and menstrual cramps and

it didn't change anything.

had always imagined should Partly we hid it because it was much

too soon. We were just excited to be together and we weren't ready to let the world in.

Everything we did felt totally natural, and when I look back I am proud of how open I was. We had sex. We incorporated all of his girl parts, but I didn't see them. They didn't detract from my conception of him as male. He was a guy with breasts and menstrual cramps and it didn't change anything. I had even known him before. I can't believe how easy it was to accept him. I feel so sad when I hear people say hateful things about gender fluid or transgender individuals because I know

how simple acceptance could be if they weren't looking to hate. The most amazing part is that, in my experience, most transgender individuals are thrilled to inhabit traditional gender roles. They want to participate in, not necessarily rail against, society's complex web of gender expectations. That's not to say that they agree with girls wearing pink and guys wearing blue, it's just to point out that transgender individuals are not through the fact of their existence advocating for the change opponents fear so much.

I broke up with Tom after nine months (though it had obviously been longer unofficially). I was tired. Our relationship was disproportionately focused on the minutiae of his life. It was time. I was scared, though, that he wouldn't be able to make it without me. I really didn't know what would happen when I told him it was over. Actually, what happened was that I cried hysterically and he comforted me. He told me he would be okay. And he was. As far as I know.

Since Tom I've had other heterosexual relationships with "traditional" guys! At this point I don't think I'm gay or straight. I date people. I wish this story were about Hopkins so I could tell you about the trans presence here, but it happened some-

where else. I don't know anyone who is trans here, and if I do I don't know

The thing I really want to get across is that individuals who move between or inhabit multiple genders do not have to be threatening to those of us who identify with our biological gender. They don't change who we are and as a matter of fact they don't change who they are either. Tom was a guy the whole time he was pretending to be a girl in an attempt to conform, and his transition was just a process of becoming who he had always been. I'm so grateful that I was able to be there for him when he needed someone and that he has a happier life because of our time together. He was a great boyfriend.

The Underground

The Johns Hopkins News-Letter

April 12, 2012

## Why nothing will ever replace what the library means to me

realize that the Brody Learning Commons (BLC) is kind of a good idea. People at Hopkins like to study. So we obviously need more room to do it. The BLC even looks like it could be interesting. Sometimes when I walk to the library, I notice the numerous amounts of windows that keep appearing due to the construction. One would think that the added sunshine would make it a

happier place than the library. But I'm not so sure.

On the first day of school, my suitemate and I went to the library. We wanted to start studying so we could make sure that we were going to start off college right. For that entire first semester, my entire suite would go to the library and act like typical Hopkins students. We would start off reading our chemistry textbooks and then end up on Facebook stalking the people sitting at the table next to us.

Those are usual study habits that can be repeated anywhere, yes. But there's something about the A Level environment that makes it unique to any other place I've studied on campus. I never used to study with music on because it was distracting. The level of noise on A level made it necessary for me to not only get a Pandora, but to fall in love with my iTunes. Studying now wasn't only about doing work, but doing work with Florence & the Machine to encourage me.

People always complain that they can never find a seat in the library, but I consider that to be a challenge. There's nothing that I like to do better than arrive at the library and spend 20 minutes finding a seat: I get that it's annoying to walk around for that long, especially with a heavy backpack. But a search for a table is not mindless walking up and down the stairs for me. It's the part where I get to walking through the entire library and seeing everyone who I would ever want to see that really does it for me. Sometimes before, during or after studying you really need a break. That's why it's so great to have so many people there to hang out with while studying.

I started to feel this way during the first finals period of my freshman year. I sat with a bunch of people from my student group who I didn't know very well. It was great, because at least one of us was always in the library to hold down the table. After that stressful two weeks, I felt so close to those people because we had endured the noise and stress of A Level.

I'm not saying that the BLC won't be a great place to study. I'm just worried that next year; when I need a study break, I won't know where to find all of my people. The BLC will actually force me to sit down and get my work done, and that scares me.

#### Quit mocking those of us who are a part of the Arts & Crafts community

'm an arts and crafts kid. For the most part, Hopkins has been pretty good to me, even though I'm not the stereotypical pre-med or engineer. But every once in a while, you meet one of those kids who could ruin your college experience if you let them.

You know the type. Or if you don't, you probably are the type and just don't real-

They're the ones who tell you your tests don't matter, because you're not premed. The ones who scoff when you talk about LSATs or GREs because those will never be as hard as the MCATs. The ones who sneer and ask "what are you going to do with that major?"

I used to let these things work me into a rage, or to challenge these self-righteous people to explain the security dilemma and its implications in a nuclear world, or the significance of the green light on the dock in The Great Gatsby (just kidding, that's not a challenge for anyone who graduated high school).

And I always used to wonder about those kids: What the hell is their problem? Why do they think they're so much better than ev-

Then it hit me. They don't think they're better than everyone else. They're such a\*\*holes because they are deeply, perhaps even subconsciously, afraid that they're not as good as anyone else. Even though they got in here, to one of the best schools in the country, and even though sometimes it seems like the whole school is geared towards them and their success, and like the humanities and the social science students are the outsiders, they feel like they don't belong. And it makes me kind of sad for them. Not sad enough to refrain from calling them assholes sometimes, but enough to make me realize I'm incredibly lucky. Because I know I'm good enough for this school.

On a grander school, I know that what I do has value. Sure, medical and engineering advances allow us to live longer, healthier lives, and I value and appreciate that. But the social sciences are what enable us to live as a society, elevated at least a few crucial steps above anarchy. And the arts are what make our lives worth living

#### All I want and need in life is free food, is that wrong?

very Friday morning, I wake up just a little bit later because I know that I don't need to make myself breakfast. Once I force myself to get out of bed and make it outside, I take a necessary detour on the way to class. Every week, I stop by the Christian group at the Breezeway for their muffins and their apple juice. Sometimes they give me flyers that I've never read telling me about their events.

The first time I took free food from a religious group was the second day of orientation. People passed out flyers enticing me with free ice cream, so I found the Interfaith Center and ended up talking to two people about what churches they go to in the area. I don't think I ended up mentioning that I was lewish.

I honestly don't even know what the name of the group is that gives out food on the Breezeway. I usually grab my food as fast as I can and keep walking. I tell myself that this is because I'm always late for class, but it's really because I feel guilty for taking the food. I probably will never go to their events or end up having a deep conversation about religion with

What's even worse is that I'm sad that they probably aren't going to have Kosher for Passover food this Friday.

- The Underground

## Feel free to ask questions about my sexuality but think first

hen I was a freshman at Hopkins, I was really nervous. I was nervous about being away from home, nervous about doing okay academically at such a prestigious institution, nervous about adjusting to dorm life and most importantly, I was nervous about making friends. While evervone struggles with these things. I like to think that the culture shock of being in a new place and the process of making friends was a bit harder for me than it was for the average freshman because I'm a guy who is attracted to other guys. There were many times when I felt really uncomfortable dealing with people who weren't used to gay people. In a perfect world, no one would have to feel uncomfortable about being "different," but I guess that's life.

I'm not saying that I've ever experienced outright homophobia at this school. At this point, I wouldn't even call my experience being gay a civil rights movement style fight again discrimination. My experiences at Hopkins are more about awkwardness, cultural disconnect with my peers and some very intelligent Hopkins engineers and premeds who have no idea about what it's like to be gay.

Although this is probably somewhat unusual, being gay was actually not that hard for me in high school. I'm from Massachusetts, arguably the most progressive state in the country. I came out when I was a freshman in high school, and people rarely gave me trouble for being gay. My parents were supportive, but there wasn't really any reason why I would need extra support.

So because of all of this, it was a real culture shock for me when I got to college and my roommate had never met a gay person before. And the first set of friends I made in my dorm had never really had gay friends before me either.

So in addition to learning how to clean up your room and do your laundry, college life also meant that my dorm-mates had to learn to stop saying "that's so gay" all the time. As much as I appreciated their efforts, the fact that it was an issue made it harder for me to adjust to college life.

Furthermore, it was awkward because I didn't know when to tell people I was gay. Even two or three months into the school year, many of the people I knew had no idea. A few even used the word faggot pretty loosely in my presence. I think the problem is that a lot of people just assume everyone is straight. Even in my Chinese class, I'm not sure what to say whenever the teacher goes around asking the boys a question about girlfriends and the girls a question about boyfriends (all in Chinese

Once people did know, they often asked me a lot of awkward questions. This was hard, since it's nice to have friends who you don't need to constantly explain things to. For example, while my roommate quickly identified and befriended the other Asians on our floor, it took longer for me to find people that I felt comfortable with. I don't see a better way to proceed than to list some of the things people have asked me during my time at

- Is gaydar a real thing? Do you have
- When did you turn gay?
- What's the difference between a drag queen and a transsexual?
- How many lesbians are there at Hopkins?

- gay? Do you know
- So what did you do this weekend?..... wait like, a regular bar? Or a.....

\_? He's gay.

- So does it feel good, or just feel like you are pooping over and over
- Aren't you used to seeing promiscuous people because you go to

how everyone's sexuality

their gender should and

shouldn't affect how you

interact with the world.

- If gay people are discriminated against, why thev would ever be mean Please think hard about to other peo-
- You know it's and how people express every girl's dream to have a gay best friend right?

ple?

I don't want to imply here that questions are a bad thing.

It's important that people who don't understand something should feel comfortable asking politely. I felt like an idiot during my first week of freshman year, when I asked someone if she was from North Korea or South Korea, but I was grateful that she didn't seem to judge me and explained that North Korea was, well, really poor and they would shoot you if you try to leave. While it's great that political correctness makes intolerance socially unacceptable, I worry that it makes people

afraid to talk candidly about all of those categories mentioned in anti-discrimination statements.

However, I did meet a lot of people who I felt more comfortable with. DSAGA (the JHU "Diverse Sexuality and Gender Alliance") was a great resource for me and has been growing a lot over the last couple of years. I also got to Hopkins before "born this way-ism" swept the nation, before Tyler Clementi's suicide got people talking.

So to everyone who have made it this far reading, I thank you so much for your interest. And to the LGBT readers, I hope that I did justice to what its like to be gueer at Hopkins. And for everyone, please think hard about how everyone's sexuality and how people express their gender should and shouldn't affect how you inter-

act with the world. It can be lead to an awkward set of choices, but it is never good when people, as some do at Hopkins, seem to take for granted not having to think about all of this. For example, I urge everyone reading this to have an opinion about ways people

are trying to tackle these things, especially right here at Hopkins. What are your thoughts about the Hopkins OUTList? For those of you who don't know the Hopkins OUTList is a website (type "JHU OUT-List" into Google) launched by Hopkins where students, faculty and staff from every division of the university can list their name and position at Hopkins, declaring that they're "out."

And most of all, please don't be afraid to ask questions.

The Underground -



### A senior addresses the people he/she has encountered at Hopkins

To the lady at the registrar who makes a lot of small talk: I'm kind of stressed out by having to add a class at the last second. Can we just do this?

To the lady at the registrar who never even says hello: Your efficiency is admirable, but you've made it pretty clear that a kitten dies every time I have a financial hold.

To whoever put the coffee machine in the basement of Shaffer: You are what this University is all about. You have insight and the will to get stuff done. You also proved to me that Butterfinger is a valid latte flavor.

To the library employee who wears sneakers and is always everywhere: You deserve to be shouted out. Your dedication to the library is really touching. I've definitely resented you for telling me to be quiet on C-Level or for taking my Nerds Rope, but that wasn't fair. You run around fixing the copiers really late at night. Like really late. And you can direct me to any locker or book. Sometimes I'm reluctant to talk to you because I know you will give me A LOT of information, but it's really comforting to know that you're there. So thanks.

To the tenured professor who really doesn't give a crap: You're great. Other students complain about you on the evaluations, but they're idiots (which you already know because you're jaded). Please mutter some more about low-level University administrators who are drunk on their small power. Seriously, don't let it rest.

To the person in the library elevator with me: You're a real a--hole. Why didn't you even try to hold the door? Where is the coming-up-from-D-Level camaraderie? You saw me waiting. Now this ride is awkward. Fabulous.

#### To my fellow undergraduates:

Chin up. It's not so bad here. Actually it's a really great place to be. Sure, I love to complain as much as the next guy, but don't get sucked in to all that negativity. Going to school here is a pretty sweet deal.

And to the person who sleeps on the leather couches in Gilman in the middle of the day wearing an eye mask: Bravo, Sir.

To the overly aggressive club member flyering on the breezeway: Rein it in.

- The Underground

The Johns Hopkins News-Letter

April 12, 2012



t's not allowed. Apparently some kids got hurt a while ago, so now it's against the rules. But it happens anyway. I won't say where.

The first rule isn't not to talk

It's not even really a hard and fast rule. We need more people to come. Mainly you're just encouraged not to talk about it to anyone who might get the administration in-

The first rule is not to f\*\*k any of your sparring partners up too

badly.

The second rule, 1 guess, if we really want to list rules, is to be willing to teach each other. Sparring goes on for a while, and then we break, go back over what just happened, figure out how it could have turned out differently. We learn.

It's a pretty positive experience. Or at the least, the one I go to, the guys I work with, it's a pretty positive experience. I know for a fact we're not the only one. I tried another last summer. It wasn't really my style, but they were all good people too.

Sometimes (a lot of times) we walk away



with a couple of bruises, some scrapes on our bare knuckles. But we always walk away without any real problem.

If you're interested, ask around subtly. Sooner or later (and honestly, probably sooner,) you'll find your way

You're always welcome.

## How I lost my virginity on my own terms

And how it still feels like I have to lie about it

I lost my virginity my freshman year of

It wasn't to a boyfriend or a guy I had been casually hooking up with for a while. It was a one night stand with a senior I had been into since my first week on campus.

I didn't tell him I was a virgin, but I did tell him that I was coming over one night. I think we both knew it was going to hap-

Afterwards, I was relieved. I told my friends at home that we had been dating but that wasn't true. He had a girlfriend

but it wasn't me.

I don't regret how it happened because it was good for me. I actually had an orgasm, which wasn't true for a lot of my friends. But it still sucks because most people don't accept that a girl can be alright with one night stands in general let alone for the first time.

I think that initial lie was the start of a long-winded fictional tale about my sexual past.

My current boyfriend thinks he's number three and that I lost "it" in high school to my long-term boyfriend. Of course that's not true, but it makes him feel more comfortable. It makes everyone a lot more comfortable when I tell them I lost my virginity to someone special.

But the truth is that I never even kissed him until that night.

The Underground —



The Johns Hopkins News-Letter

April 12, 2012

#### Getting worked up over grades



Hopkins is without a doubt one of the most prestigious universities in the world. We have awesome programs that include science, engineering and even Writing Seminars. But with that prestige comes the work that must be put in to achieve that success. We cannot be expected to learn from our professors without putting in the time and effort to really become immersed in the subject and understand what we are being taught.

As a result, no matter what time of year it is there is always one topic of discussion that will emerge in every social group: complaint sessions.

"Ughhhh, I haven't studied for this test neeearly enough! I am so screwed!"

"Can you believe I have three midterms and a paper due this week?!"

"I. Hate. School."

It's natural, it's common and I'll admit it is totally understandable. As 18 to 22 year-old adults surrounded by our best friends, we would much rather be out on the Beach tossing a football around or at CVP enjoying a drink weekends and weekdays. But instead, we are cramming into the library every night like herded sheep, driven by the omnipresent shepherd named "GPA."

But I like to think about it differently.

What's the point about getting all worked up over grades anyways? I think working hard and striving to do well in school is absolutely important. And stress is a good way to tell yourself when you need to stop watching that TV show on the computer and start reading your textbook.

But there is a point where the stress of doing well can become overwhelming. When that happens, I think it is vitally important to stop and think about what all that stress is actually doing.

Pressure from parents, competition with peers, and a personal drive to succeed can make a determined person go crazy when things aren't going right. But it's important to realize that no matter how anxious you get, your current situation is not going to change. That test is not getting farther away, those vocabulary words are not getting any easier to understand, and whatever else is making you break a sweat is probably not going to change just because, well, you're sweating.

Instead, when those situations arise we should know that we aren't in an ideal situation, learn from it, and then move on Easier said than done, I know. But what's the harm in trying?

So while it's common, and even expected, for us Hopkins students to start freaking out over school, I think our time would be better spent letting the pressure just run right past us instead of constantly trying to run with it.

- The Underground-

## 50 things I would like to tell the guys I've slept with

1. If you have to ask me if I came, the answer is no.

2. When I say I don't have a condom, I'm lying. I just decided to not have sex with you.

3. Check your sex playlist. Do you really want to be the guy I associate with Sarah McLachlan?

4. If you don't make any noise, I will get uncomfortable.

5. I don't have an exam the next day. I just hate sleeping over.

6. I am probably not interested in your strict work-out regimen/diet. Probably not.

7. My roommate doesn't have an exam the next day. I just don't want you sleeping over.

> 8. I actually am sorry that I said the wrong name.

9. Don't order the garlic fries at Brewers Art if you're expecting to get some.

> 10. I've faked it before. It may have been with you.

11. You aren't the best I've ever had. He doesn't go to this school.

12. If I respect that you have an orgo test, then please respect when my 15-page paper is due. Your hand is your friend, too.

> 13. I'll tell you my number (of partners) but I'm probably lying.

14. Porn is not real life.

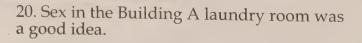
15. Do not try to put that somewhere I don't want it. Ask first.

16. Harder.

17. Faster.

18. Lofted beds can be perfect for certain positions that stimulate the mythical G-spot. I tend to appreciate that.

> 19. Dorm shower sex sucks. Stop trying to make it happen.



21. Do not write about having sex with me on JHU Confessions. Oh, wait. We don't have that anymore.

22. No, I have not see that version of Pirates.

> 23. Don't push my head toward your crotch. If I want to go there, I'll go there.

24. Of course I want a glass of wine. And pot too, if you have any.

25. If I'm at Maxie's, don't assume I'm a freshman.

26. Wash your sheets every once in a while. If I can recognize an old cum stain, it's time to do the laundry.

The Underground

The Johns Hopkins News-Letter

April 12, 2012

## at Hopkins (No, that does not mean there's 50 of you)

27. If I tell you I'm not wearing underwear, it's a sure thing.

28. Clean your bathroom. I don't care if room inspection is next week. I don't want to get an STD from your toilet.

29. No, I will not go to your formal with you.

30. Yes, I did sleep with your roommate.

31. You can spank me. If I don't like it, I'll tell you.

32. Dorm beds are small. Acknowledge that.

33. I'm into threesome. Just not with you and your frat bro.

> 34. Yes, those handcuffs are for what you think they are.

35. If we're doing it doggie-style, don't expect me to not check my email on my iPhone. You can do that too.

36. Dirty talk does not involve specific anatomical names. Get a little more creative.

37. Your tongue is not a weapon.

38. Get your condoms from HellWell. Or your RA. But please don't make me buy them at UniMini.

> 39. If I give you a blow job, then you better go down on me. End of story.

40. General hygiene is much appreciated. That involves cleaning your balls. Especially if you ask me to put them in my mouth.

> 41. Fingering someone is not like digging for gold.

42. Erogenous zones are important. Look them up.

43. We can talk and have sex. That can be fn.

44. I don't want you to text me a picture of your penis. It does not make me wet.

45. I am serious about the D-level challenge.

46. Do not expect me to own up to things we've done during "Never Have I Ever." A girl's gotta have some secrets.

> 47. You should know that some girls find hand-holding to be indicative of something more than sex.

48. Take your socks off.

49. Don't expect everything another girl tells you to be true of all girls. That's what'll get you into trouble in the first place. Seriously. If you think all girls are like this, don't.



50. Yeah, baby. Just like that.

-The Underground

April 12, 2012

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#### The Cheesecake Factory: Dinnertime and culinary revelations

We (a certain number of people who know each other) went out to an outing to the Inner Harbor (one of the most visitor-populated places in Baltimore) one night. For dinner, we went to the Cheesecake Factory.

The day before, we had a conversation that one of us, Bob, had a severe walnut allergy and we should avoid places with walnuts. Jokingly, someone said, "That's not too hard, is it?"

Tired from our visit, we sat down and ordered an array of delicious dishes. We were so full from the huge servings that we couldn't eat anymore. Instead of ordering a cheesecake each, we decided to split one.

Mimi knew the Cheesecake Factory best, and proceeded to order a thick, yummy slice of apple pie cheesecake.

Yummy, very.

All of a sudden, Bob looked concerned. He turned to us and asked, "Are there walnuts in the cheesecake?"

We didn't see any. Still concerned, we asked the waiter.

His reply was classic, "All cheesecakes in the world have nuts!" Nevertheless, he apologized several times about not informing us prior to that.

 $\operatorname{Wow}$  — all cheesecakes in the world have nuts. That's probably why we're going nuts . . .

## Unexpectedly, people have a lot of feelings about Ajumma . . .

Think before you eat

A fan speaks out

There's a Korean eatery on St Paul's street. It's always packed. People of all races like to visit that place. It's called Ajumma's (that means "older aunt" in Korean).

I never get people who eat there on a regular basis.

The food is heavily overpriced and overly seasoned. And although you get a lady who smiles happily all the time (she the owner), her workers seem to be overworked.

Hopkins students, pay attention next time you go there, and I'm not saying that you shouldn't. But be aware of the shops you eat in.

Having Ajumma in Charles Village is really a game changer for me. I don't think that there are a lot of restaurants in the area that are frequented predominantly by students, but still feel like normal establishments. When I walk into Chipotle I usually feel like the entire FFC just picked up and relocated while I wasn't watching, but Ajumma just feels like a restaurant. Besides, you can't beat the friendly owner and delicious food. It's a little pricey, but definitely has comparably priced competition in the immediate area. I usually end up spending the amount at Carma's or Freshii that I spend at Ajumma. And the bottom line is that the food is better. And if you don't agree, I hope we can at least acknowledge that it's better than Orient Express will ever be.

The Johns Hopkins News-Letter

The Underground

## I have to admit, I am kind of a creeper

s my mind was drifting in class the other day, I came to an important realization

I'm kind of a creeper.

Not in a lurk-outside-your-window-watching-you-sleep kind of way. More in the read-your-gchats-over-your-shoulder-because-I'm-bored kind of way.

So yeah. I know you're stressing about the job hunt (and dude, me too.) And I think it really sucks that you suspect your boyfriend is drifting away. And random guy, you should probably stop looking at pictures of women in lingerie. I realize it doesn't really count as porn, but seriously? Does this really seem like the place?

But you there, reading The Oatmeal, you can stay.

I realize it's a little bit not okay. But I kind of expect that the person behind me in lecture is doing the same if I have my laptop with me. I really think I'm not alone in this creeper-dom. And that makes me wonder two things. First, do we, as a generation, or a culture, or whatever, have no respect for people's privacy (a question also raised by The Social Network). Second, do we, as intelligent Hopkins students, really expect these activities in class to be private? Or do we just not care?

# Are professors in office hours or out hiding?

y impression of office hours (OHs) is that they are a time intended for students to be able to contact their professors: a guaranteed time every week that the professors will be in their offices. My impression is wrong, I recently showed up to my advisor's office hours in order to have my junior clearance signed. I knocked on the door, and I heard nothing except the shuffling of papers from another office. So, I knocked again; a little bit louder this time. I stood close to the door with my head inclined so my ear is even closer, in case I just didn't hear the welcoming, "Come in!" I had hoped to hear. Again, nothing. So, I stood for a minute knowing that I have arrived just minutes after the OH's began. As I'm waiting for my advisor to rush out of the staircase and apologize for being late, a woman walks down the hall. "Oh, he's giving a lecture now."

Good for my advisor. I'm glad people want to listen to him talk, but please not during his office hours. That's the time when I'm supposed to be able to talk and have my junior clearance signed. By the way, he didn't have any time to talk to me at all. He cleared me without having a conversation.

Additionally, OHs are not meant for catching up on grading papers. If a student says, "I'd like to talk to you about my paper during your office hours," "Well, I'd like to be doing other things, but I guess so," is not an appropriate response. Maybe next time a professor asks me to write a paper, I should respond, "Well, I'd like to be doing other things, but I guess so." We are all thinking it, but we don't say it. Professors should have the courtesy to not say it either.

I thought they were having Office Hours, but it appears most professors are Out Hiding.

The Underground

#### The dynamics of brotherhood and autism

When I reflect on how I got here and consider what awaits me at home, I always come across one of the biggest challenges in my life growing up and one that will stay with me well into the future. Based on some recent statistics that have been published by the CDC, I know that there are plenty of others in this country who will struggle as siblings, parents and friends.

Autism has been making the rounds in the news lately, or at least it's been popping up on my procrastination radar. For those of you who haven't taken any sort of psychology course and lack a clear idea in your mind as to what it is, autism is an inability to perceive the presence of other minds.

In other words, they cannot get a sense of what you are thinking and base their actions accordingly, with lack of communication or facial expressions in early childhood being a major indicator of autism.

Their social impairments are quite dramatic, plus autistic individuals also face steep challenges in their learning ability and general speech faculties. Through the use of writing or large keyboards in younger children, autistic individuals seem to be better able to communicate in "writing" rather than verbally.

My brother is a high-functioning autistic: he has a decent ability to communicate verbally — usually in incomplete sentences — and can function independently for some menial tasks or routine errands. He has worked in a retail setting, yet that job was mostly in the background as a stocker who lifted and unpacked boxes.

When he was younger he had behavioral issues and his learning deficits back then required him to attend a special-needs program run by multiple school districts in our

Despite these challenges he has managed to finish his secondary education at the same high school I attended and is currently working towards a computer-aided design certificate at a community college.

My parents are optimistic that my brother can someday live independently with meaningful work to support himself, but language challenges still continue to plague him.

When I think about the challenges my brother faces, I cannot help but wonder whether I too share in any of his issues. I'm not an exceptionally verbose person, I consider myself difficult to express and I skipped both junior and se-

Of course, these are poor parallels as my brother will go on and on about the most random things you probably did not wish to hear and he attended both proms in high school.

We both also seem to tell people a whole lot by the faces we make, although we probably do that differently in response to different stimuli. I'm not sure how similar they are and how well his expressions correlate to anything, but

one early sign of autism is an inability to make facial expres-

Research has also shown that parts of the brain that aren't well-activated in individuals with autism also show slightly less activation in siblings of autistic individuals compared to those not affected at all by autism.

Then again, it's not like I personally have gotten my head scanned alongside my brothers and gotten that compared to

I can see for myself, where I am going and where I have been, that I should not let this thought overhang in my head as I ponder my past, present and future.

There's also a larger dynamic to my brother's autism: how it has impacted the dynamics of our brotherhood. Sometimes we would fight as any young pair of brothers would when we were little, giving our parents quite the headache on long road trips.

In our present years we have both matured and get along like adults more or less. We respond favorably to any requests we have of each other, not to mention he is more than happy to pick me up from the train station or lend me his car so I can meet my high school friends.

Yet his impairments meant that he could not be the older brother that some of my other friends had or what can be found portrayed in movies and shows.

He would try to assert himself in our infrequent argument and demand the privileges of being an older brother, but he also lacked the ability to fulfill that role in other respects. At times he would try to impart some bit of "wisdom" upon me from his experiences, yet it either comes out verbally mangled or bears no applicability to my life.

There was not much of a tearful, much less emotional, goodbye when I first set off for Hopkins at the start of my freshman year. There weren't any phone calls or conversations in general until Thanksgiving, and even then we had

Whenever we do talk he would bring up one person or another whom I allegedly know by virtue of having been in the same high school class, yet I always remind him that I do not know that person at all.

Once I tried to chat with him on an instant messenger because he had already been signed on, yet that conversation consisted of short responses on his end before it was his turn to terminate our conversation.

Despite our lack of closeness in that regard, I know I can count on him for favors and someday he may very well need me for support in his life.

Until that point comes, I know he'll have my back in one respect: my brother has an eagerness to lend me his car at a moment's whim that few other older brothers share.

#### Things I should say more often

I'm afraid you're better than me.

I'm not sure if we're still joking or not.

#### And some it's really best I keep to myself

And maybe a few in between...

When you speak Portuguese, it makes me want you. Bad.

I want to like you, for his sake. But somehow I can never get a sense of your sincerity.

Sometimes I enory your faith and the

Our families are so similar, and sometimes so similarly f\*\*ked up, that talking to you is one of the easiest and most natural things I've ever done. Thanks for your friendship.

You don't even go here!

You are honestly the most worthless person I have ever met, and I am deeply ashamed of having wasted any of my life on you.

I think you're not sure if we're still joking or not.

I still remember the poem you workshopped in class three years ago. Not the words, but the images and the way it made me feel. Well done.

You're not usually my type - wrong gender - but if you were interested, I'd probably say yes. Too bad I'm pretty sure you're not.

I tease you a lot - it's part of our friendship - but I hope you know how wonderful I think you are. And I worry that you don't.

Your lectures can make me feel like my brain is going to melt out my ears from all the information I'm taking in. And if I could do another year of them, I would

When we met, we were both pretty trashed. But I enjoyed our talk that night, and I wish I saw you more often.

I think you're hilarious and kind of a genius. We should hang out more.

I haven't even met them, but I hate your parents for the ways they've failed you. I see it in your insecurities, your poor choices, the way you let people walk all over you, and it makes me sick. But the way you cope, even thrive, inspires me. You're one of my heroes, and I love you. And when I say I love you, I'm not really sure anymore how exactly I mean it.

- The Underground

The Johns Hopkins News-Letter

April 12, 2012

You're one of the most down-to-earth, reliable people I know. It makes you such a relief to be around.



#### Hopkins culture makes it hard for a lesbian community to exist

Why the gay social scene could improve on campus

eing gay at Hopkins is a pain. This is not because of prejudice or insensitivity; I have never been the subject of homophobia in any respect. However, I must say that I am generally viewed as a novelty in my group of heterosexual friends, and frequently the subject of inappropriately-timed penis jokes and much too detailed questions about my sex life.

I should probably clarify: being a gay man at Hopkins is a pain, being a lesbian at Hopkins is nearly an impossibility.

In my single days, I would creep around Maxie's trying to make eye contact with anyone who had a short haircut and whose glance seemed to linger in my direction. I would stalk the Facebook profiles of freshmen (with my now girlfriend, funny how things turn out,) looking to see who might have indicated a "like" for Ellen DeGeneres, The L Word, maybe even (one of my personal favorites,) the lesbian sister act Tegan and Sara.

Once, when I found out that a normal-seeming girl was gay, I literally sent out a mass text to everyone that I knew was friendly with her to find out what her deal was. Taken. This was admittedly only one of a handful of elaborate schemes, none of which resulted in even the smallest amount of success.

All of the gay boys that I know are on Grindr, and have the (dare I say) luxury, of using an iPhone app to meet up for random sex in the Quad. Now I know that there are a number of Grindr-esque alternatives for the "women-seeking-women" set, but they don't quite have the popularity and reputation that I'm looking for in a random-sex helpline.

They say that there's the Hopkins 500, so, if society is approximately 10 percent gay, I'm looking at (if you assume that half of all gay people are lesbian women,) about 24 other social lesbians to set my sights on. And, if you add in all of the bisexuals, pansexuals, and other bi-curious people, might I say that the number could rise up to,

say, 40? Well, I can name 8.

The gay community at Hopkins is in hiding. The gay community at Hopkins is barely even a community - I'd say that a "large circle of friends" is a more accurate term. I don't know what the solution is, honestly I can't even offer a suggestion which would have any basis in what I actually see going on around me. I wish that people would consider though, how much better things would be if everyone would put their real selves out there for others to see.

Unrealistically, I would like to found a super-fun gay/lesbian house where us gay people on the prowl could go out and hook up with random people just like everyone else. I doubt that this pipe dream will ever come true, and I don't really expect it to.

I will admit, and maybe I should have mentioned this earlier, I do have a girlfriend. We met in an unconventional way (a slap in the face to established Hopkins's social structures,) but I love her more than I ever thought possible. I never forget how lucky I am that I managed to couple up at this crazy school, and I am incredibly thankful every day.

My girlfriend and I know though, that we will be breaking up after we graduate. I never had the typical collegiate dating experience that most people do, and I know that I won't be happy settling down until I feel like I have had the opportunity to live the typical "single life." I had hoped that when I got to college I would be able to go out and meet new people and "experiment," but instead I stood awkwardly at frat parties feeling badly about myself. I missed out on a part of the "college experience," and I hope that one day I will be able to make up for that.

What I really wish is that this school could open up, just a little bit, so that other people could find the same kind of happiness that I have - I wish that when the next bunch of budding lesbians in the class of 2016 steps onto campus in the fall, this school will be just a

- The Underground

#### Where is the camaraderie, the initiative to do the right thing?

woke up last Wednesday morning at 9:00am sharp, same as I always do. I groggily got myself out of bed and threw on some clothes that I had picked out the night before, carefully watching the time to make sure that I got out no later than 9:42am. On Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, I run to Levering to get a cup of tea before class — no matter the temperature, there is a cup of hot tea in my hand about 75 percent of the day.

About three hours later, after two incredibly boring classes and my daily lunch of \$17 dollars worth of Levering sushi (dining dollars aren't really money, right?) I made my way back upstairs to Pura Vida. I like to grab a nice cozy seat on one of the couches along the periphery of the room, where I can plug in my computer charger without having to rearrange the furniture.

The room was fairly crowded on this particular Wednesday, but I noticed that there was an empty couch on the left-hand side that seemed to meet my specifications. As I approached, I saw a couple of crumpled papers nearby and an Einstein's coffee cup in the front corner of the table, right at the spot where I was planning to rest

my feet. I did a quick scan to see if there were any other personal belongings serving to "save the seat" - none. I sat down in front of the cup, supposing that someone had left it behind, pulled out my laptop and commenced watching the previous Sunday's episode of Army Wives while doing some readings for my next class.

I sat in that spot for the next two hours, semi-conscious of what was going on around me, until all of a sudden it was 2:55pm: time to leave for class. I stuffed my laptop in my black Jansport backpack, shoved my headphones in the front pouch, hesitated for a second looking at the cup, got up and walked out the front door.

Later that day I made my way back to Levering after a night class and a short dance rehearsal in the abandoned lobby of Hodson Hall to meet up with my girlfriend. We had had a fight earlier in the day and I was desperately trying to make things right — though I wasn't sure how well it would go.

After a particularly tense conversation, we started laughing again. A few minutes later, I looked to my right and saw that same Einstein's coffee cup, still sitting there on the table, nearly eight hours later.

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diculousness of the situation, I was, as the same time, not at all surprised. I instantly thought of a recent incident in Foshan, Guandong, China in which

a two-year-old girl was run over by two different vehicles and was left lying on the street as eighteen people walked by. The tale of the coffee cup is not exactly the same, not even close to the same really, and yet I couldn't help making the connection.

Civil society at Hopkins is lacking — there are, in my opinion, fewer thriving student groups than might be found at a comparable university, and camaraderie between students is forced, at best. Chinese people have a hard time feeling compassion for their fellow citizens and, as evidenced by the eventual death of the little girl, they are not usually quick to get involved in situations that involve people outside

of their family units. I would argue that student life at Hopkins operates the same way.

I have my group of about five best friends, and then I would While I was floored by the ri- say that my circle drops off sig-

> nificantly. If I sneeze while sitting in the library, I will very rarely hear a random "god bless you." If I trip while walking up the stairs, more likely will

someone snicker and walk by then extend a hand.

I am used to this complacency — I don't expect anything more. And yet, when I saw this cup, I realized that I am also part of the problem. I can complain all I want about how much I hate the student body at Hopkins, but I am as much to blame as everyone else.

I can't say that I'm going to pick up every piece of litter I see from now until the day that I graduate, but I hope, at the very least, that the next time I see someone struggling to find a table on M level, instead of spreading out my belongings to take up as much room as possible, I'll actually make eye contact and offer him a seat.

The Underground

#### I didn't not have sex in Gilman Hall

For some, the D-Level challenge just doesn't cut it; it's risky, it's too quiet and it reeks of extreme focus. So why not have some fun in a place with a little bit nicer feng shui (and less cameras)?

After a nice dinner with a couple of drinks at Niwana, we decided to go out and conquer Gilman auditorium. What started as a joke at first actually turned into something we went out of our way to pursue. We crept around the corners and peered through doors—think George Clooney from Oceans Eleven with a little Steve Martin from Pink Panther. After realizing that mostly every door was locked—probably for the reason that professors really don't want students doing the deed in their offices we determined that the auditorium may be the perfect spot. It's dark, secluded, and has multiple exits if a quick escape is needed.

The next part of the story is full of shhhing, whispers, constant breaks to peer up at the doors and a quick get away. Though we haven't been back since, it was a good time and I'd recommend it.

#### A reconsideration of bisexuality

Sophomore year I lived at Charles Commons, in one of the rooms that faced 33rd street. It happened one weekday afternoon. I was lazing about in my room, watching one of my favorite gender-bender Japanese drama — the kind where the main character is a girl but for some reason has to dress like a boy. All the boys around her start to like her, but since she's a boy, they all think they might be gay. Anyway, I was watching one of those instead of doing homework and my roommate stopped by my door on her way to class.

"Guess what?" she said.

I paused my drama at the essential "Oh dear, I have to shower but I can't because they will find out" scene, and plucked out an earbud. "I hate penis!"

I was aware that she liked both penis and vagina, but this was something new.

"Okay," I replied. A picture of a little grey headstone that said "R.I.Penis" popped into my head.

"Well," she said, and hitched her bag up on her back. "I'm going to class now." And she left.

If you are now expecting me to begin pontificating on a proceeding crisis, on a redefinition of our friendship, or a sudden bright and bubbly social revelation, I'm sorry to say that none of that happened. The only change for me occurred as a mental erasure of a little checked box titled "Bisexual" and a check in another called "Lesbian," alongside the all the others, like the one that says "Likes puppies," or "Cooks tasty things."

What happened next was I turned back to my show and watched it to its predictable end. They find out he is a she, and instead of being pissed off at this odd bit of trickery, they become ecstatic that they are not, in fact, gay. It is difficult for me to determine what the subliminal message about homosexuality is in this type of show because they don't seem to mind cross-dressing, yet when a male character discovers that he is in love with the "male" character, the world then comes crashing down. The only message I could really get out of it is something like: "If you think you're gay, you might want to check to make sure that he is really a he, because he might be a she, you never know," which doesn't make much sense at all.

-The Underground

### Finding something meaningful in a kiss

'm dancing in the inferno that many call the Pike basement when a shirtless guy starts grinding with me. In a blur of sweaty bodies, I find myself leaning against the grimy wall. Somehow, shirtless guy's face comes closer and closer to mine until our lips are touching. Seconds later, I pull away, grab my friend and get out of the frat as fast as possible. That was my first kiss. The first time I had a drink. And my second weekend at Hopkins.

I knew when I got to college that being a "lip virgin" was pretty embarrassing. In high school, there was nothing I could do about it. I never had those friends in middle school that played Spin the Bottle and I certainly wasn't cool enough in high school to have been invited to real parties. As for the relationship department, the only time a guy ever "liked" me was my freshman year in high school, when I was too immature to know how to deal with that. I only had one crush in high school, but then my best friend liked the same guy. Of course.

In my ideal world, I would meet a boy during orientation or in one of my classes. We would go out to dinner and then eventually have that normal, anticipated first kiss. It's been over a year since that Pike basement and I still haven't kissed anyone who I actually wanted to kiss or was even remotely attracted to. In fact, there have been four other guys who I've locked lips with since then, and I cannot even come close to remembering their names.

After my first kiss, I was a mess. Not only did I emerge from the party with Pike foot, but I felt like I had lost all of my innocence. I even considered calling one of my very conservative friends from home to tell her how I had lost my morality and ask her what I should do. In high school, I would have judged anyone who even drank or who had sex and here I was, going to frats every weekend.

I already knew that my lack of boy experience wasn't normal, but I had never expected my first kiss to be like that. I eventually got over it and continued to follow the same pattern I'd had in high school, where I barely noticed any of the guys surrounding me. And then, right before second semester started, I went clubbing.

I danced with a pretty cute guy for about an hour, and he seemed pretty into it, although he did reference how cool my friends were for dancing on a pole. Eventually, we started making out. And then he left me to go dance with one of my pole-dancing friends. I wasn't surprised. After all, I never had the time to practice making out with a real person, so obviously I was terrible at it. And then somehow I ended up upstairs making out with another guy. After I got back, I figured out that the only fun part of that night was the getting drunk part, which was slightly upsetting. After all, if I was going to go to the extreme of making out with two guys in one night, shouldn't I have enjoyed it even a little bit?

Things got worse. The next week, my friends became obsessed with setting me up with some guy at a frat. I don't know why I went along with it. Of course, the one guy they found for me was nerdy and couldn't dance. I felt bad at first, because if I were a guy, I would definitely be the awkward one who couldn't dance. But this guy was

super weird. He kept asking my friend why I was being so "mean" to him (I just wasn't very chatty) and then somehow convinced me to kiss him. A few weeks later, my friend convinced me to go out with her, but we didn't feel like drinking that night. When I ended up making out with some guy while sober just because he wanted to, I knew that I definitely had a problem.

It's been over a year since I've kissed anyone because I've mostly stopped going to frats and started trying to get myself someone who I actually want to kiss. That hasn't worked out too well either. This is because I have regressed to what normal people in high school did and had a few monogamous crushes that have led to... nothing. I've progressed to apartment parties where guys tend to notice me when I'm drunk and having fun, but I've gotten nowhere when it comes to actually having meaningful connections with boys.

The one thing I'm slightly proud of is that there was a guy who may have been interested in me, but I just wasn't into him. What does bother me about this situation is that I still really don't know what it feels like to be into someone. I am glad that I can control myself from hooking up with anyone who wants to hook up with me, but I hope that doesn't mean that I'm incapable or too scared of any emotional connection.

I keep struggling with the idea of my normalcy. I know that there are some girls out there who haven't found the right guy yet, and I'm slowly starting to accept that I need to stop obsessing over this. But are there girls who don't know the names of anyone they've kissed? I haven't found one yet.

The Underground

I may have poor memory, but there is one speech I have memorized. It's the speech that I give to guys. The speech where I tell them that I can't commit to anything right now but that I like them a lot and don't want to end things. So where does that leave us?

That leaves us in the same place every time. This place where we are "seeing" each other but have never defined our relationship outside of that. Some guys will accept that excuse without much discussion. These are the ones who are sleeping with other people. Other guys will try to talk about it. These will be the ones who ask me a few months later to be their girlfriend. They consider me a challenge. What they don't know is that they aren't the only ones.

At any given time I have five guys on speed dial. Maybe more. There's a rotation that they are part of and, in general, don't know it. I have my Friday guys, my Saturday guys, my Fells guys and my Canton boys. There are guys who are good kissers, guys with very talented tongues (for other kinds of kissing), guys a little into S&M, and the ones with endurance. None of them know each other. Some are affiliated with Hopkins. Some have been my TAs. And I have slept with all of them.

#### There's a rotation that they are a part of and, in general, don't know it.

A lot of my friends are aware that I don't date monogamously but few know the extent to which that is the case. There is a certain stereotype associated with girls that do what I do. And that's why I don't talk about it. Instead, people know what I reveal to them in drinking games and so I'm just the girl who has had a threesome or had sex on the beach (not the drink). But I'm not the overly promiscuous girl. Just the kinda sorta promiscuous girl.

My freshman year of college, I thought I was a f\*\*\*-'em feminist and that the only way to assert my feminine freedom was to have sex without attachment. When I abandoned that idea, I learned that it was almost impossible for me to have any other kind of sex.

A few guys have asked me to date them. One asked to me meet his parents. Another proposed long distance. And then one actually proposed. I don't tell my friends about these guys because to me, that sounds like "Hey, look at all of these guys I can get" and that is certainly not my intent. In fact, it's when they have these discussions with me that I question my actions most. Because I haven't been totally honest with them and yet here they are, telling me that I'm the girl for them. And it hasn't really improved my idea of guys either, since many of them are acting in blatant disregard for what I've told them.

Sometimes I'll meet guys and go on dates with them. But I find myself getting bored and looking at my phone and other times cancelling the date hours before. I know I should feel bad but then I text someone else and forget about it once I'm naked. I tell myself that it's because I haven't found a kindred spirit at Hopkins and that once I'm in the real world things will be different. But I don't know if that will be true. And having sex without emotions can only exist for so long. Because once everyone's paired up, where will I be? Alone. And it worries me because I'm pretty okay with that.

-The Underground

#### Putting on your big kid pants: How to grow up at Hopkins

- Fail a test. You gotta learn what the curve means sometime and how you can't always be the one to set it.
  - **Schedule your classes poorly.** By the time you get to be a senior, you'll appreciate that you've had it bad. Now you get to relax. Well. Sort of.
  - Make ill-advised romantic choices. Tell your best friend you love him. Kiss that girl you think you're getting signals from. We're all out of here in four years anyway and heartbreak is only temporary, right?
    - Get velled at. At lot of us were the little kids who hated getting in trouble as wee ones. And that still applies today. When you f\*\*k it up, let someone acknowledge it. That could involve raised voices. But then never let it happen again.
- Stop telling your parents everything. Instead of doing that auto-dial to Mom and Dad while you walk to class, put in your headphones. Take a break from the dailyreport or the weekly-email and remember that you are technically an adult now. You don't need to tell them that you spoke up in lecture or might take a casual Philly trip next week. Call them from the train.
  - Do something stupid. How do you think our parents 6. have so much fodder for those "Here's what not to do" speeches? Because they drank too much, smoked a few cigs, and kissed too many people. Forget about the library for a night and remember that this is college. It's supposed to be the best years of our lives and they weren't meant to be spent between the stacks (unless you're doing the Dlevel challenge).

The Underground

#### THRIFTY FIFTY

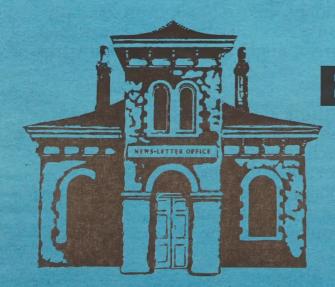
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